

yui sakuma

6

complex age

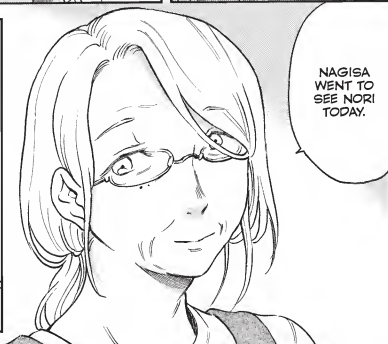
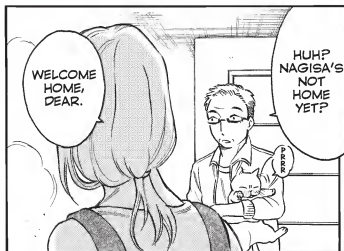


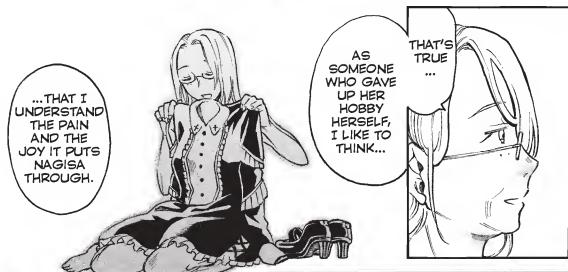
Complex age
Yui Sakuma

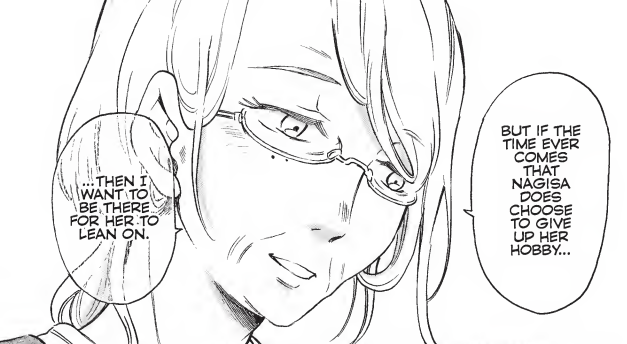
C O N T E N T S

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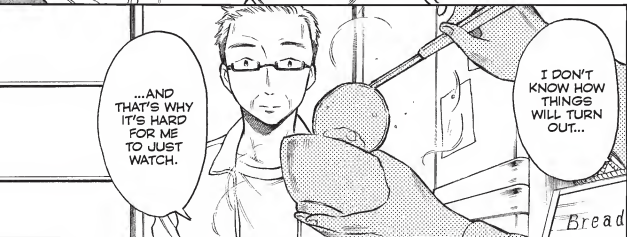






...THEN I
WANT TO
BE THERE
FOR HER TO
LEAN ON.

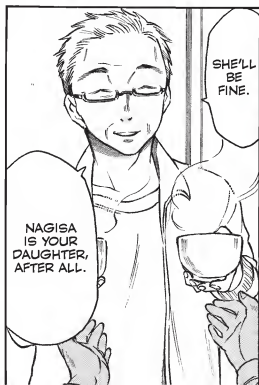
BUT IF THE
TIME EVER
COMES
THAT
NAGISA
DOES
CHOOSE
TO GIVE
UP HER
HOBBY...



...AND
THAT'S WHY
IT'S HARD
FOR ME
TO JUST
WATCH.

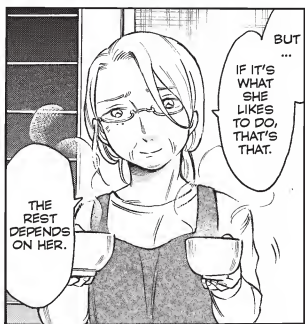
I DON'T
KNOW HOW
THINGS
WILL TURN
OUT...

Bread



NAGISA
IS YOUR
DAUGHTER,
AFTER ALL.

SHE'LL
BE FINE.



THE
REST
DEPENDS
ON HER.

BUT
...
IF IT'S
WHAT
SHE
LIKES
TO DO,
THAT'S
THAT.







NAGI-SA...
I PRESUME?

LOOK HOW
YOU'VE
GROWN!

...

UH...
YES,
MA'AM.

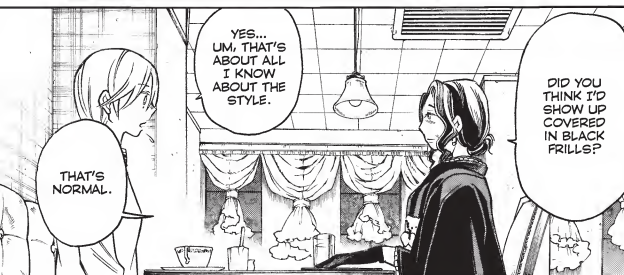
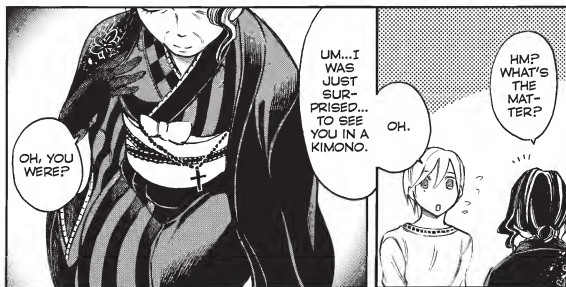
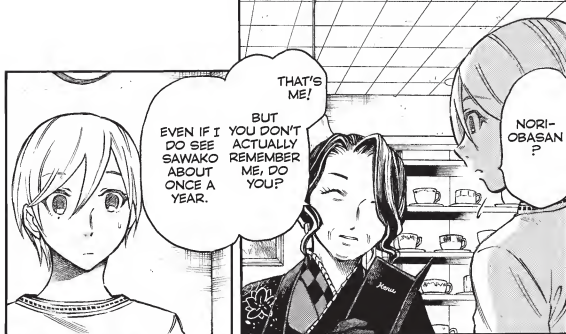
U
M
M
M.

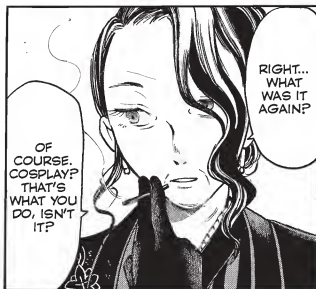
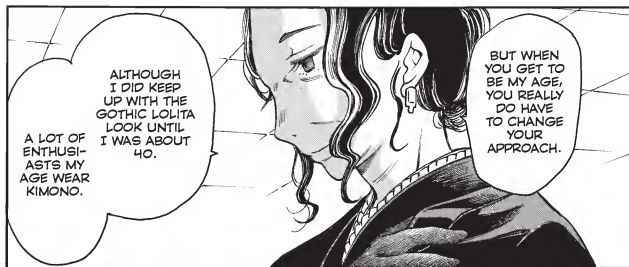
GASP

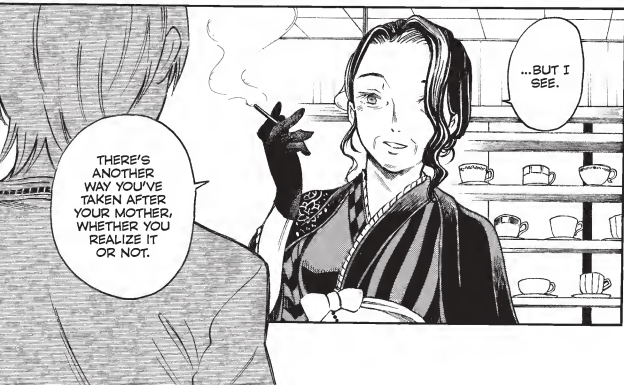
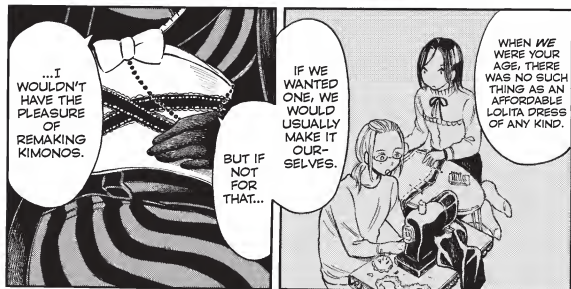
YOU
...

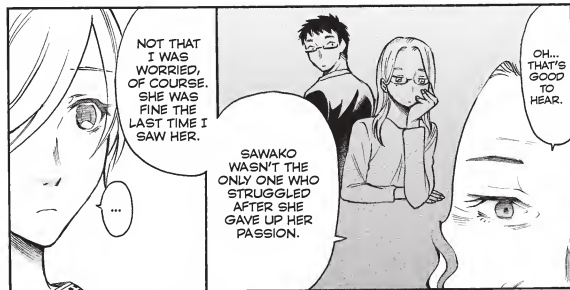
...LOOK
JUST LIKE
SAWAKO.

I KNEW
YOU IN-
STANTLY.





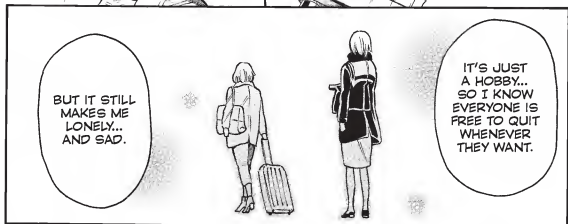






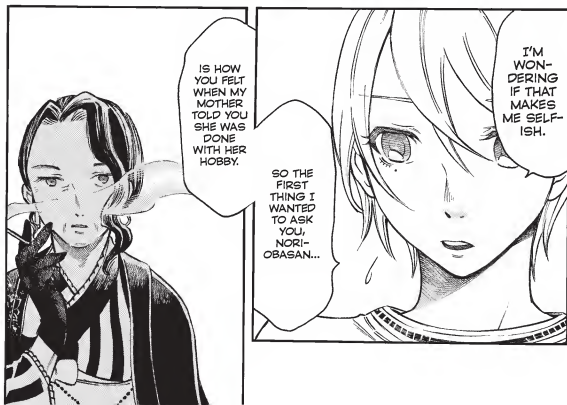
...BUT MY
FRIEND
GAVE UP
COSPLAY
THE OTHER
DAY...

UM...MAYBE
MY MOTHER
TOLD YOU...



BUT IT STILL
MAKES ME
LONELY...
AND SAD.

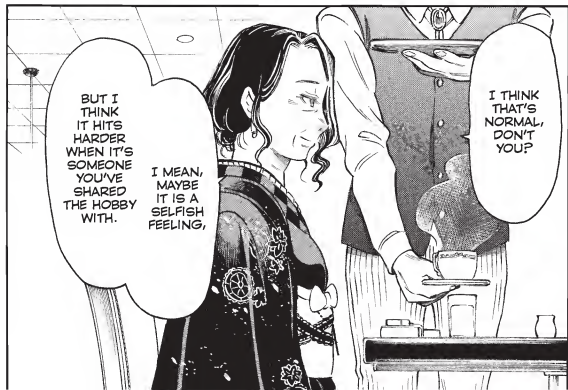
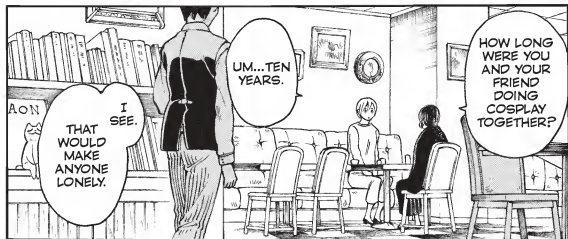
IT'S JUST
A HOBBY...
SO I KNOW
EVERYONE IS
FREE TO QUIT
WHENEVER
THEY WANT.

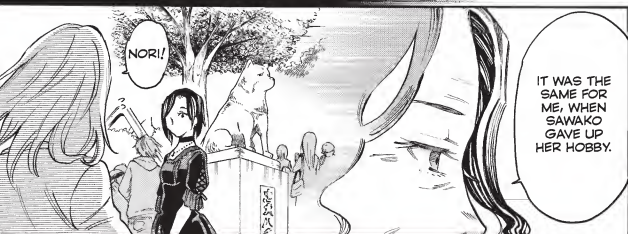


IS HOW
YOU FELT
WHEN MY
MOTHER
TOLD YOU
SHE WAS
DONE
WITH HER
HOBBY.

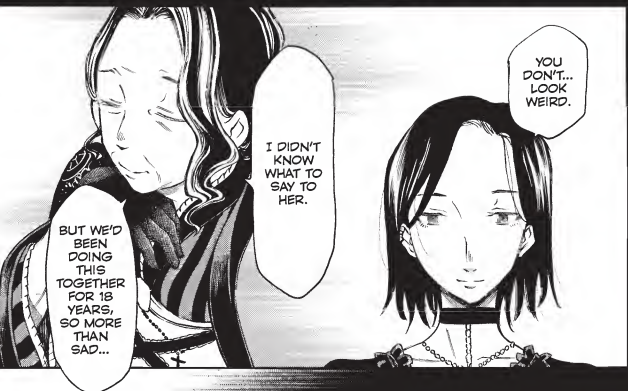
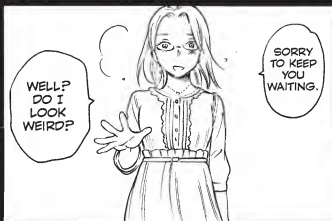
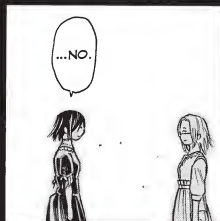
SO THE
FIRST
THING I
WANTED
TO ASK
YOU,
NORI-
OBASAN...

I'M
WON-
DERING
IF THAT
MAKES
ME SELF-
ISH.





Sign: Loyal Hachiko

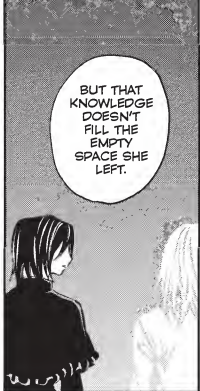




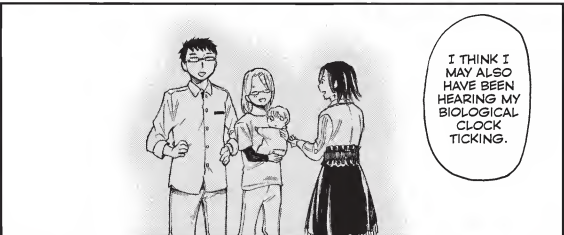


AND I HAD
MORE DIS-
POSABLE
INCOME, SO
I WOULD
SEEK OUT
AND FILL
THAT
VOID AS
MUCH
AS I
COULD.

SO I
GOT EVEN
MORE OB-
SESSED
WITH IT.



BUT THAT
KNOWLEDGE
DOESN'T
FILL THE
EMPTY
SPACE SHE
LEFT.



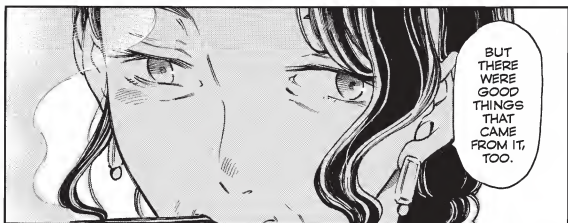
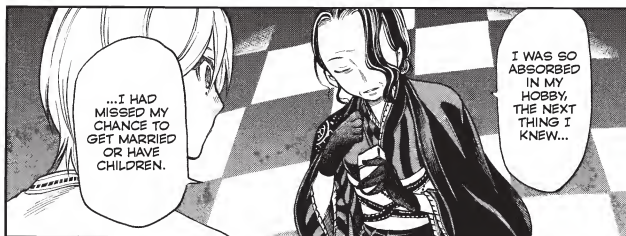
I THINK I
MAY ALSO
HAVE BEEN
HEARING MY
BIOLOGICAL
CLOCK
TICKING.

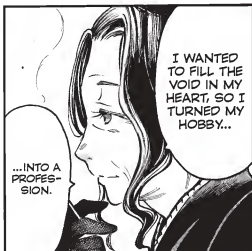
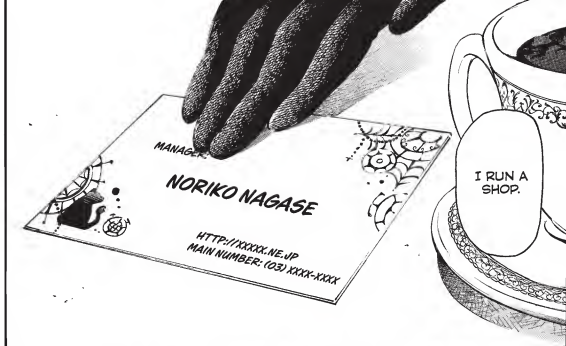


A WOMAN
LOSES A
LOT AS
SHE GETS
OLDER.



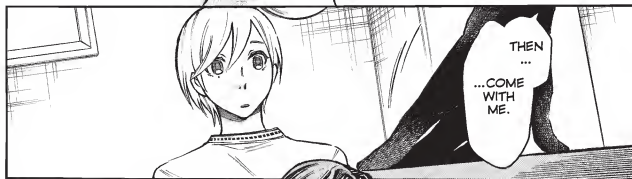
IT'S
SCARY.







NO.



THEN

...

...COME
WITH
ME.



...WHERE
MY
HOBBY
TOOK
ME.

I'LL
SHOW
YOU...



п.43▶▶▶▶▶п.44

I WANT
MY LIFE
TO KEEP
BEING SO
PACKED AND
EXHAUSTING
THAT IT
MAKES ME
WANT TO
VOMIT.

IT WAS
THE MOST
JAM-
PACKED
YEAR OF
MY LIFE
SO FAR.

MY FIRST
WEEKLY
SERIES
...

NOW,
FOR THIS
VOLUME,
I HOPE
TO TALK
ABOUT
HOW THIS
SERIES
CAME TO
BE, AND
WHAT IT'S
LIKE AT
WORK.

THIS
SERIES
HAS
REACHED
ITS FINAL
VOLUME.
THANK
YOU FOR
STICKING
WITH IT TO
THE END.

佐々木 誠
YUI SAKUMA

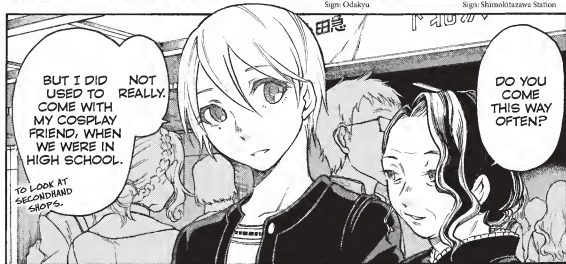
YUI SAKUMA



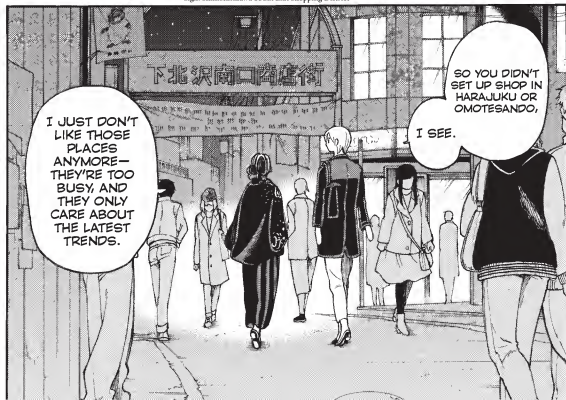


Sign: Odakyu

Sign: Shimo-kitazawa Station



Sign: Shimo-kitazawa South Exit Shopping District





NOTHING
WRONG WITH
THAT. IT'S A
BLESSING
IF YOU'RE
TRYING TO
LOOK LIKE
A MANGA
CHARACTER.

...I GET
THAT A
LOT.

MY, BUT
YOU'RE
TALL.



THAT'S A
SAD THING
IN SUCH
A YOUNG
PERSON.

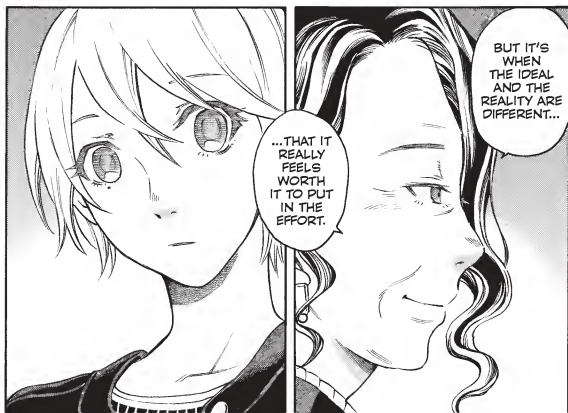
IT'S ALL
RIGHT...I AM
WELL AWARE
THAT MY
IDEALS ARE
DIFFERENT
THAN
REALITY.

Sigh...



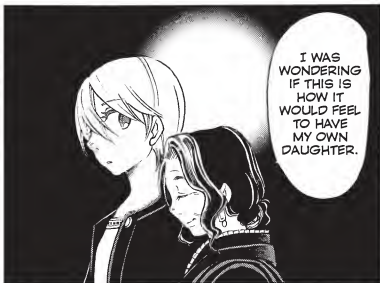
OH,
IS THAT
SOP I'M
SORRY.

WELL, THE
CHAR-
ACTERS I
CHOOSE
TEND TO
BE THE
SMALL
ONES...

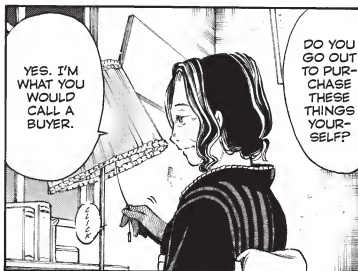
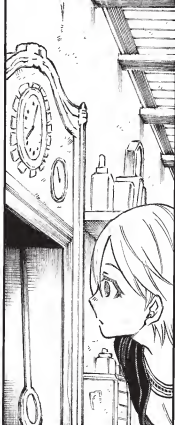


...THAT IT
REALLY
FEELS
WORTH
IT TO PUT
IN THE
EFFORT.

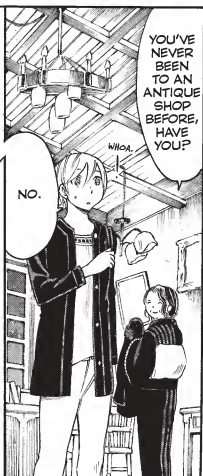
BUT IT'S
WHEN
THE IDEAL
AND THE
REALITY ARE
DIFFERENT...

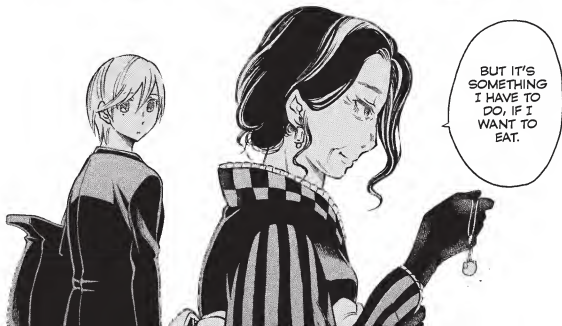
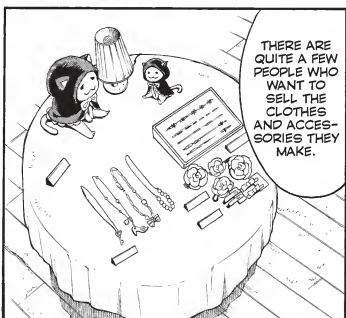


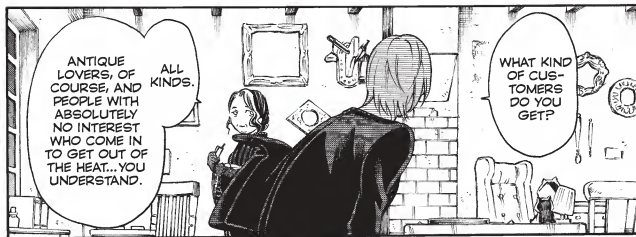




DO YOU GO OUT TO PURCHASE THESE THINGS YOURSELF?







ANTIQUE LOVERS, OF COURSE, AND PEOPLE WITH ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST WHO COME IN TO GET OUT OF THE HEAT... YOU UNDERSTAND.

ALL KINDS.

WHAT KIND OF CUSTOMERS DO YOU GET?

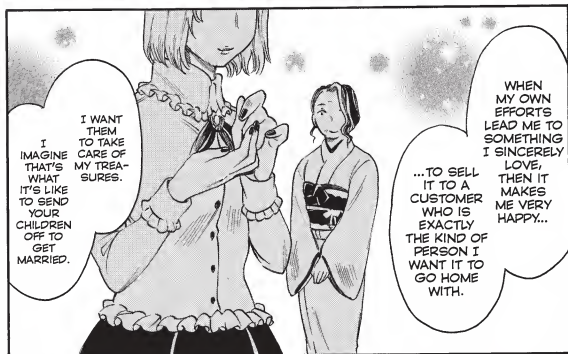


GENERALLY.

YES.



DO YOU... ENJOY IT?



I IMAGINE THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE TO SEND YOUR CHILDREN OFF TO GET MARRIED.

I WANT THEM TO TAKE CARE OF MY TREASURES.

...TO SELL IT TO A CUSTOMER WHO IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF PERSON I WANT IT TO GO HOME WITH.

WHEN MY OWN EFFORTS LEAD ME TO SOMETHING I SINCERELY LOVE, THEN IT MAKES ME VERY HAPPY...

...I HAVE TO
MAKE SURE
THE TRANS-
ACTION IS
PLEASANT.

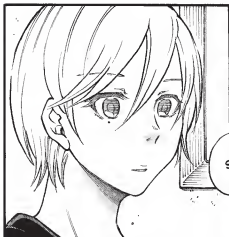


BUT
WHEN A
CUSTOMER
DECIDES TO
BUY SOME-
THING...

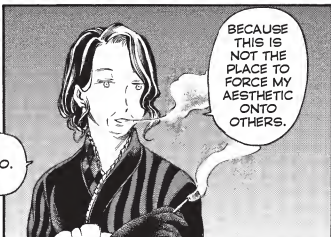


BUT
THAT CAN'T
HAPPEN
EVERY
TIME.

NO, IT
DOESN'T.



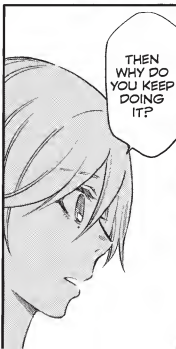
SO.



BECAUSE
THIS IS
NOT THE
PLACE TO
FORCE MY
AESTHETIC
ONTO
OTHERS.



THAT'S
EASY.

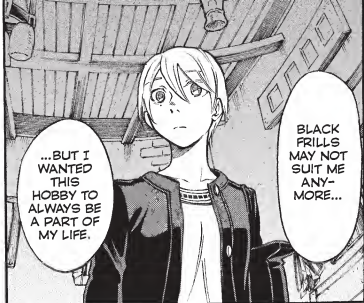


THEN
WHY DO
YOU KEEP
DOING
IT?



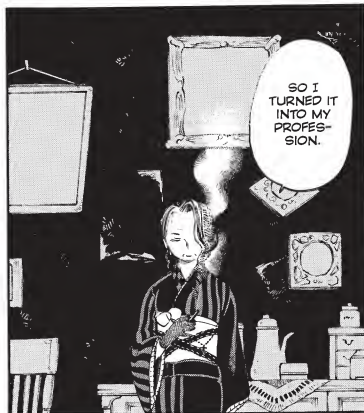
DOESN'T
IT...GET
HARD?

OH, IT
DOES.
OF
COURSE.



...BUT I
WANTED
THIS
HOBBY TO
ALWAYS BE
A PART OF
MY LIFE.

BLACK
FRILLS
MAY NOT
SUIT ME
ANY-
MORE...



SO I
TURNED IT
INTO MY
PROFES-
SION.

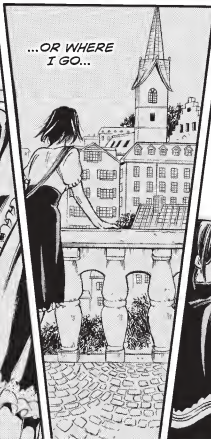
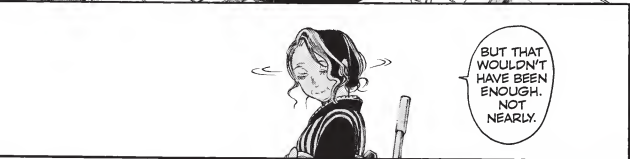


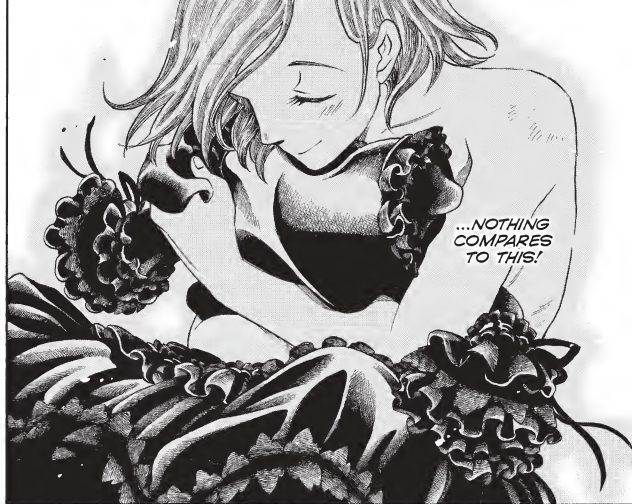
...THEN NO
ONE CAN
COMPLAIN,
CAN THEY?

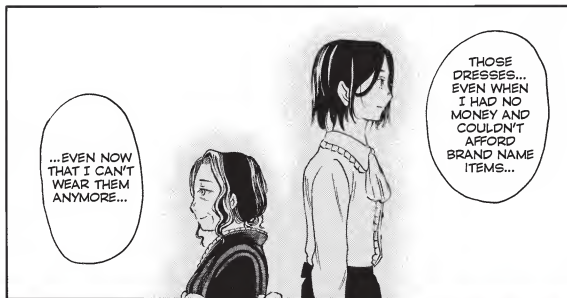
BECAUSE
IF I TELL
PEOPLE
IT'S MY
JOB...



BECAUSE I
LOVE IT.

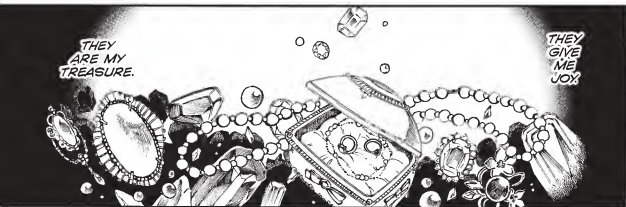






...EVEN NOW
THAT I CAN'T
WEAR THEM
ANYMORE...

THOSE
DRESSES...
EVEN WHEN
I HAD NO
MONEY AND
COULDN'T
AFFORD
BRAND NAME
ITEMS...



THEY
ARE MY
TREASURE.

THEY
GIVE
ME
JOY



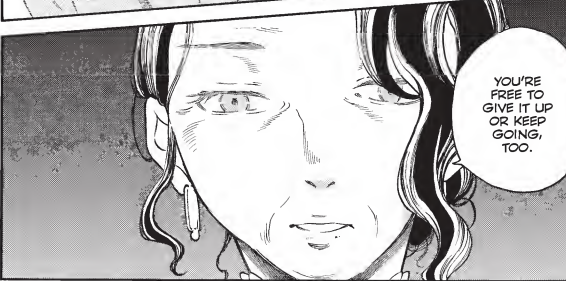
HOW
MUCH DO
YOU LOVE
YOUR
HOBBY?

NAGI-
SA...



...I DOUBT A
LITTLE THING
LIKE YOUR FRIEND
GIVING IT UP
COULD SHAKE
THAT LOVE.

IF YOU'VE
BEEN
DOING IT
FOR TEN
YEARS,
THEN AT
THE VERY
LEAST...

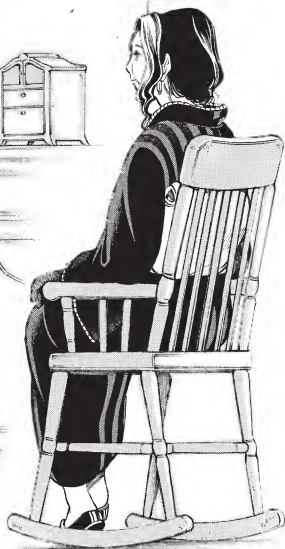


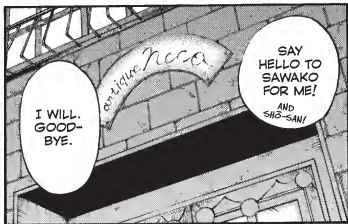
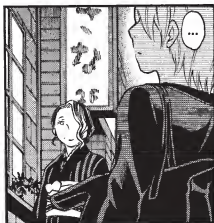
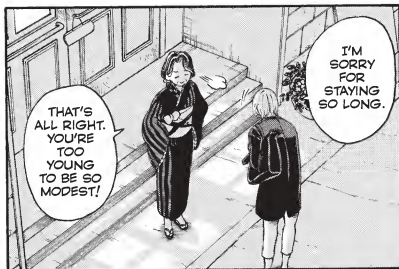
YOU'RE
FREE TO
GIVE IT UP
OR KEEP
GOING,
TOO.



SO WHY
DON'T
YOU GIVE
IT SOME
LONG,
CAREFUL
THOUGHT?

THINK ABOUT
WHAT IT IS
ABOUT YOUR
HOBBY THAT
YOU ENJOY
SO MUCH.









CLICK

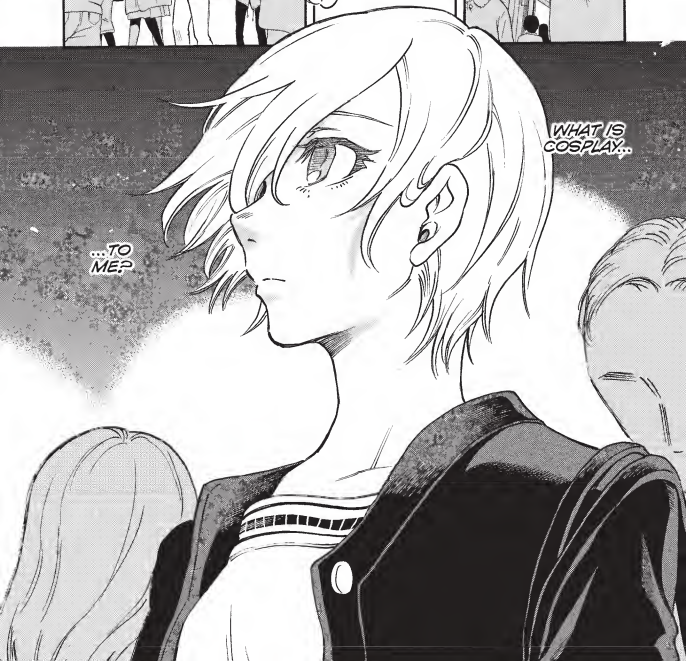


CLICK



CLICK

CLICK

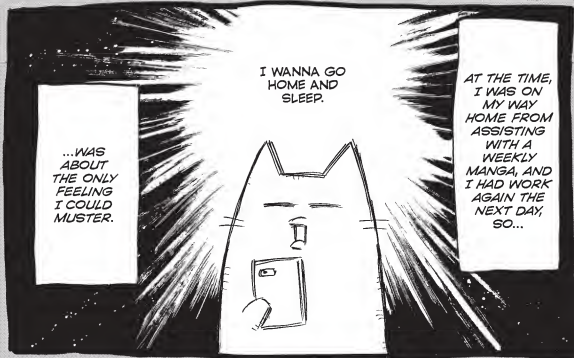
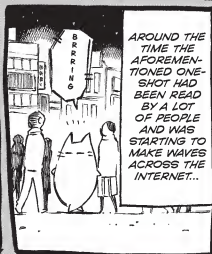
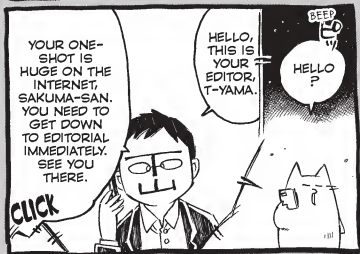
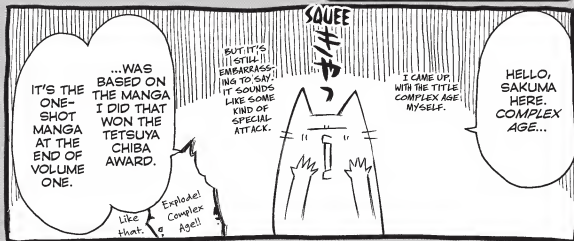


WHAT IS COSPLAY...

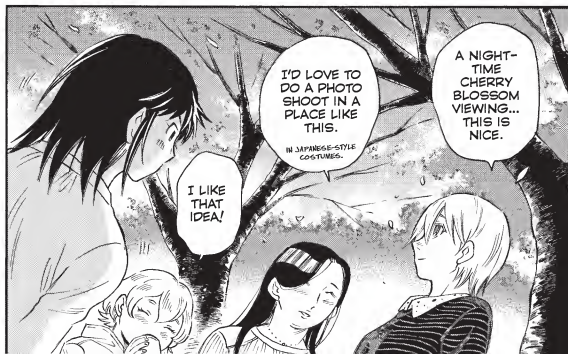
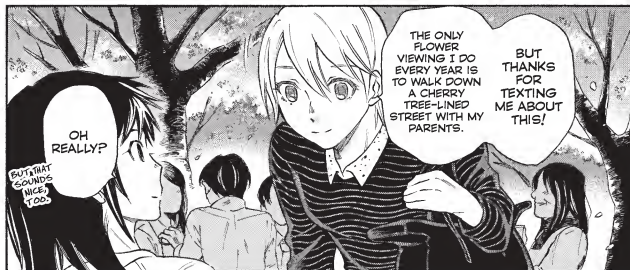
...TO ME?

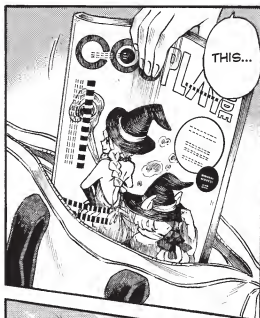


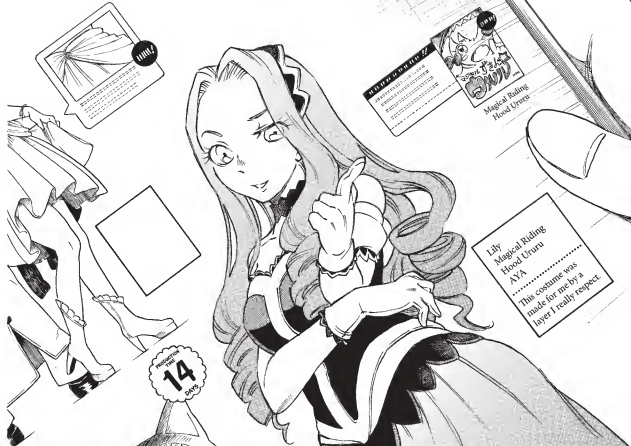
n.44▶▶▶▶▶n.45





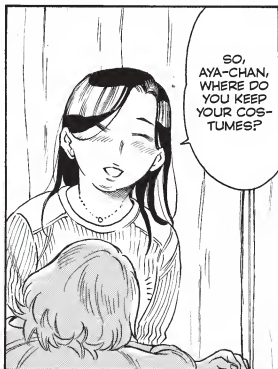
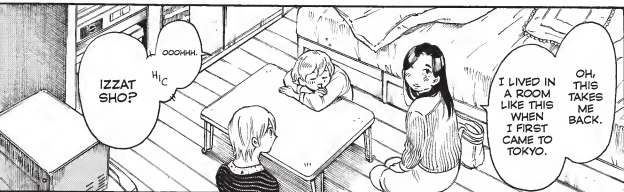


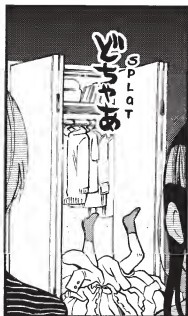


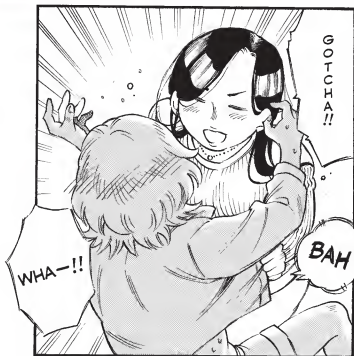
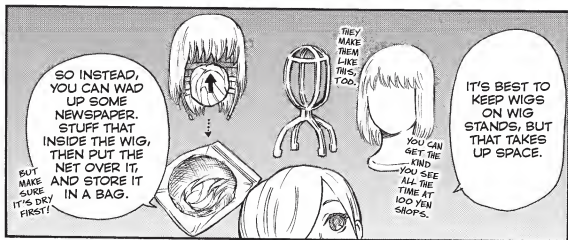














HI-YAH!

OH... YOU KNOW. I SAW ALL YOUR COSPLAY COSTUMES, AND NOW I HAVE TO PUT THEM ON YOU.

HAYAMA-SHAN, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

ZOYAAAAAH







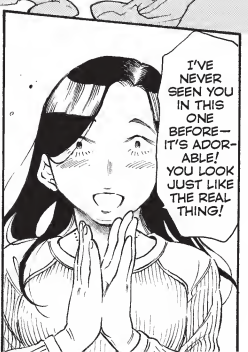
HMP?

GRIN
に



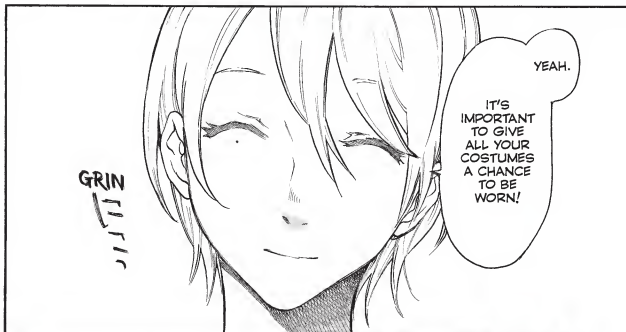
YOU
THINK
ZO?

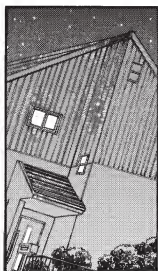
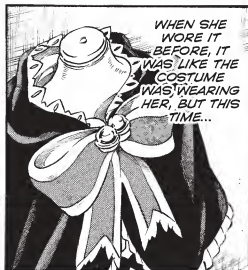
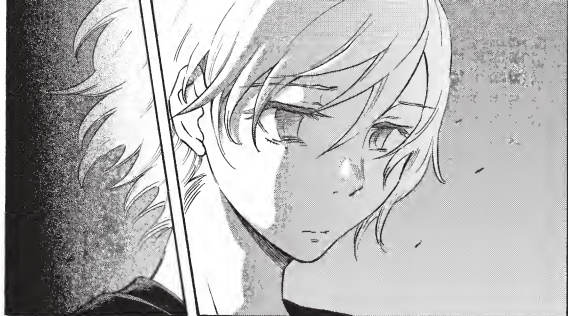
WHAA
?

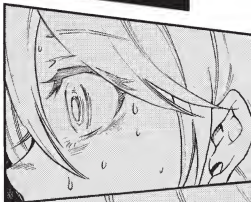
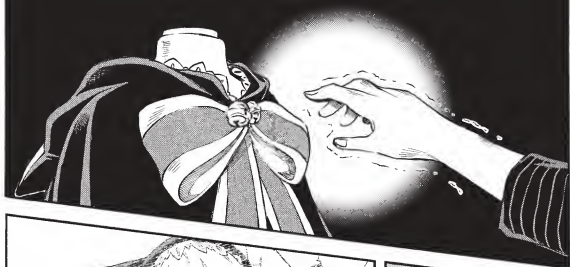


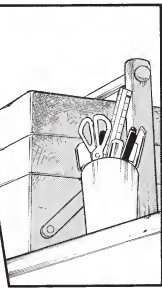
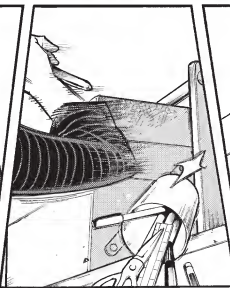
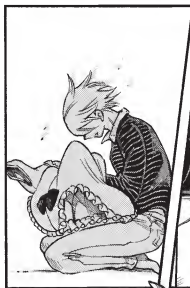
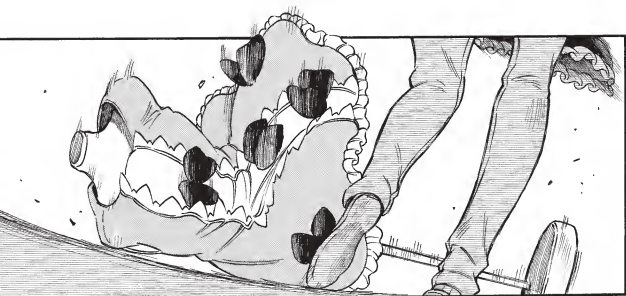
I'VE
NEVER
SEEN YOU
IN THIS
ONE
BEFORE—
IT'S ADOR-
ABLE!
YOU LOOK
JUST LIKE
THE REAL
THING!

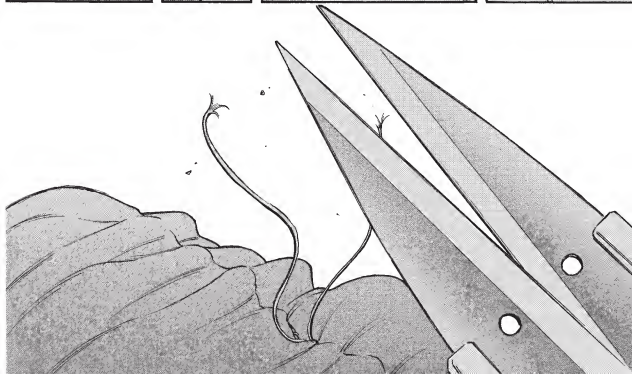
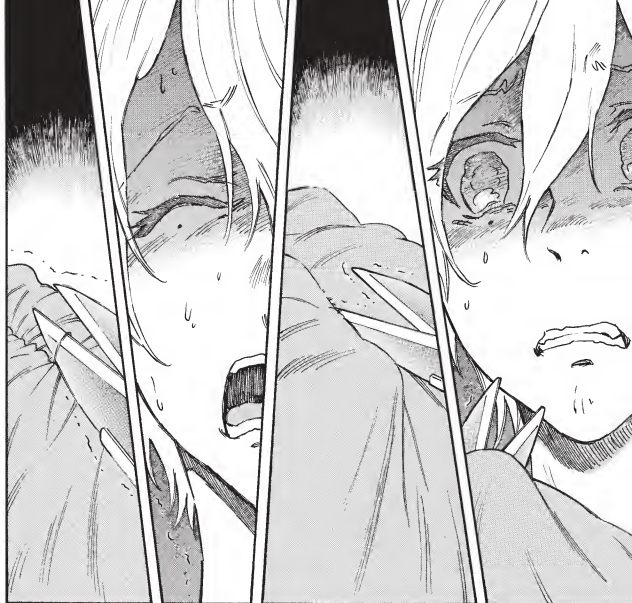






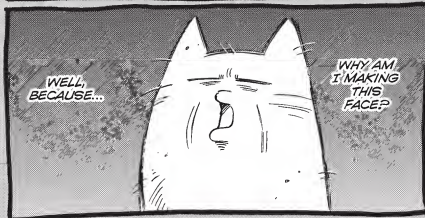
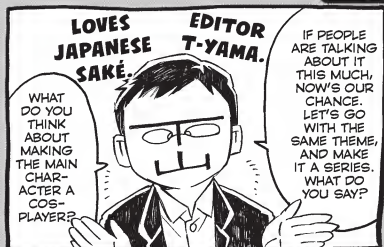








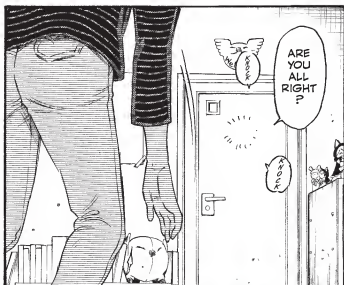
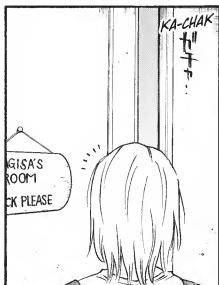
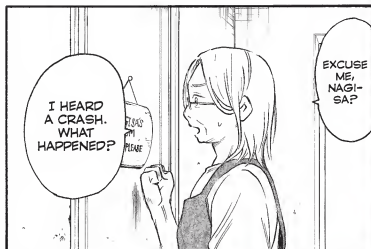
n.45▶▶▶▶▶n.46





...WOULD I
HAVE FALLEN
SO DEEPLY
IN LOVE WITH
COSPLAY?

IF I HAD
KNOWN
IT WAS
GOING TO
TURN OUT
THIS WAY...





SORRY.



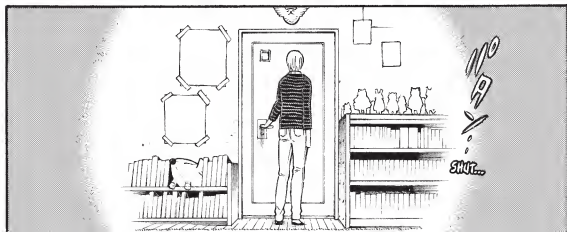
WELL,
OKAY. BE
CARE-
FUL.

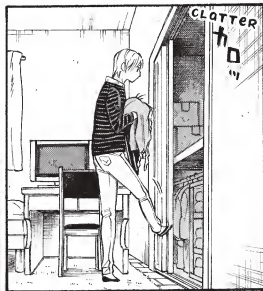
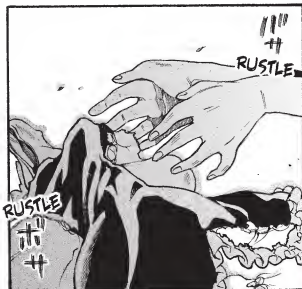
SORRY
ABOUT
THAT. I'M
GOING
TO GET
BACK
TO IT.

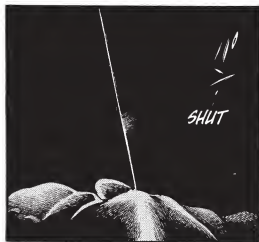
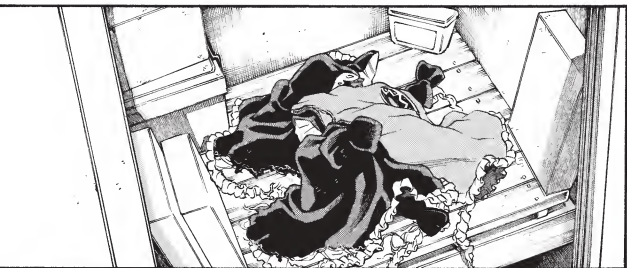


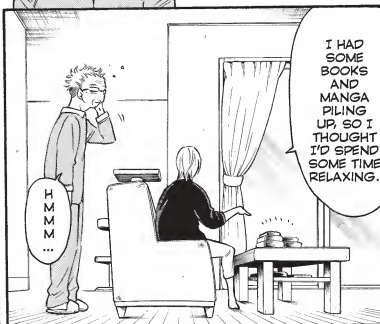
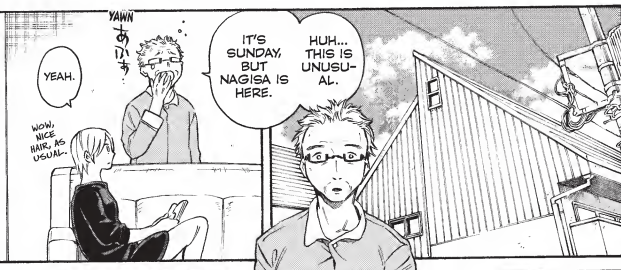
REALLY?
OH,
DEAR...

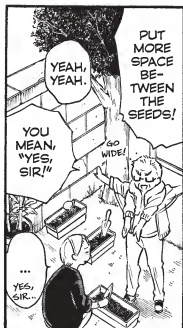
I WAS
CLEANING
MY ROOM. I
WAS TRYING
TO PUT
SOMETHING
ON A HIGHER
SHELF AND I
FELL FLAT ON
MY BACK.



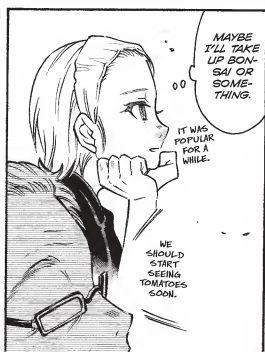
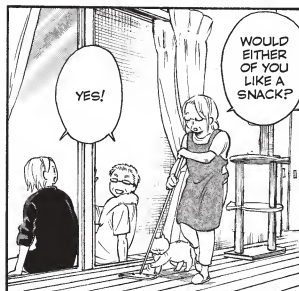
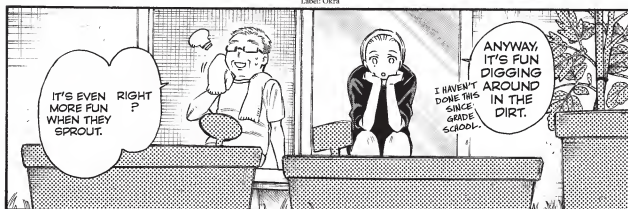


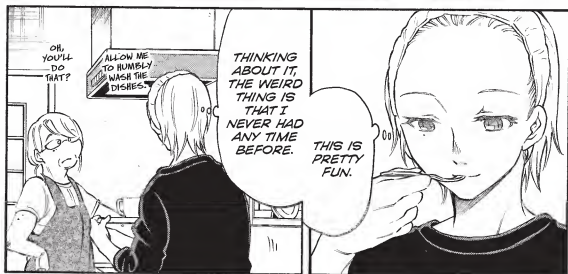
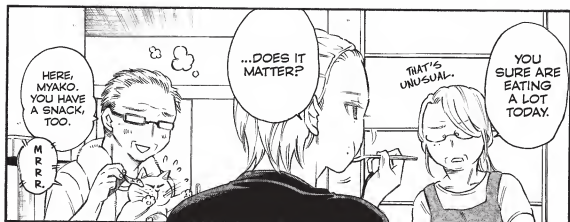


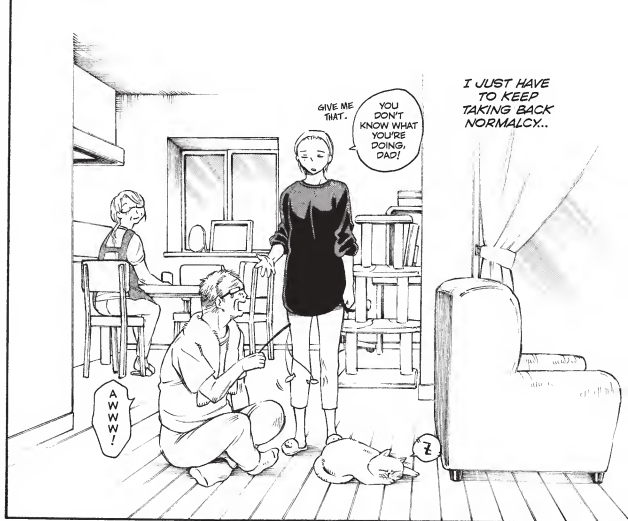


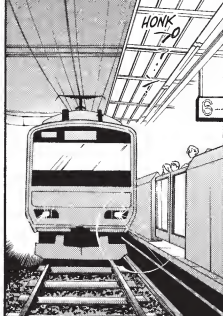
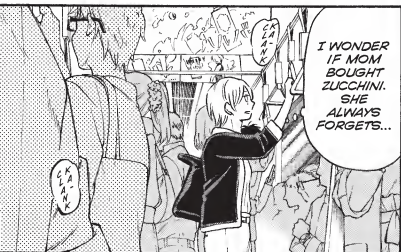


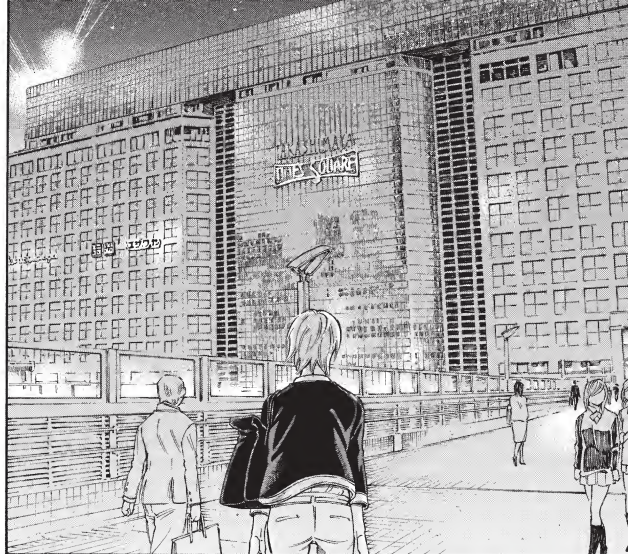
Label: Okra













whisper

UGH,
LOOK AT
THE GIANT
OLD LADY.
GROSS...

I LOVE
WHAT I
LOVE.

NOTHING
ELSE
MATTERS.

There's no picture, the picture
was right there for the taking
but is who's taking them off?

WHY DO
WE HAVE
TO RUN?

IT'S
HOPE-
LESS.

NOT AT
ALL.

I'M NOT
OKAY.

I...



TO ME,
COSPLAY...

...IS MY
LICENSE TO
BE WHO I
AM.

CLICK



BUT
THEN...

CLICK

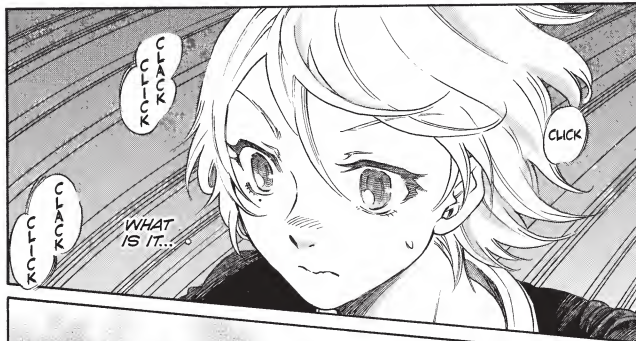
CLICK

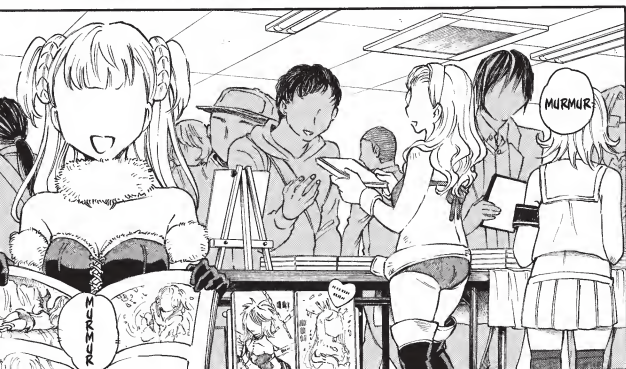
CLICK



I
JUST
...

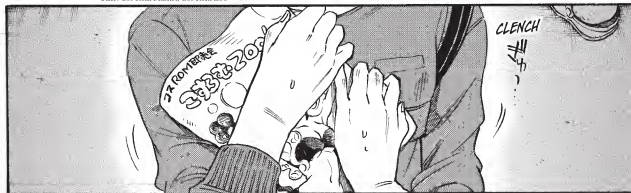
I CAN'T
GIVE IT
UP.







Flier: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom Zoo

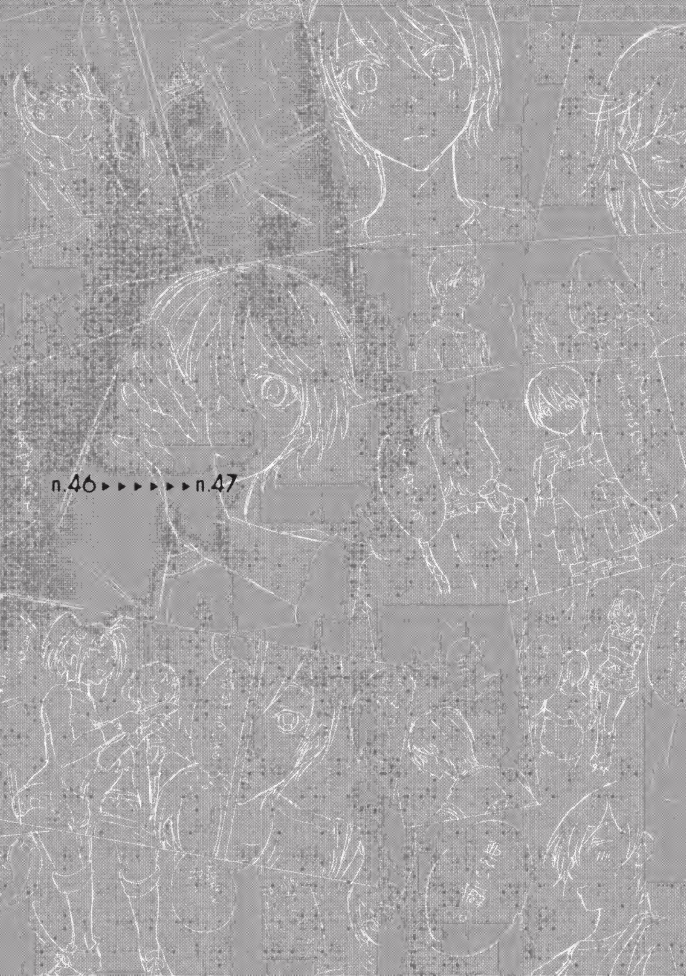


Poster: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom



Poster: Cos Rom Market, Cos Rom

Sign: Buying and Selling, Cos Rom Zoo!



n.46 >>>>> n.47

TO BE
HONEST,
I DON'T
HAVE MANY
MEMORIES
OF THIS
PERIOD.

NATURALLY
I HAD TO
WORRY
ABOUT THE
MANU-
SCRIPT,
BUT I ALSO
HAD OTHER
THINGS LIKE
MOVING,
LOOKING
FOR ASSIS-
TANTS, ETC.

DRAW A MANUSCRIPT... LOOK FOR
A HOME... GATHER ASSISTANTS...
CALL PEOPLE... PLAY VIDEO
GAMES... EAT... PLAY VIDEO
GAMES... EAT...
SIIIIGH...

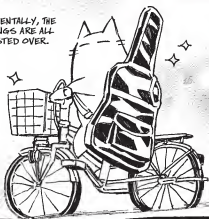


I HAD NO TIME
TO SAVOR THE
JOY OF HAVING
A NEW SERIES
TO DRAW (THERE
WERE ONLY
THREE MONTHS
BEFORE IT
STARTED).

✱ IMAGE: SOMEONE WITH SO MUCH TO DO THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL.

...AND BEING
QUITE PLEASED
WITH MY
DASHING
ENTRANCE, AS
I RODE UP TO
MY NEW HOME
ON MY BIKE.
(IT HURTS ME
NOW.)

INCIDENTALLY, THE
STRINGS ARE ALL
RUSTED OVER.



BUT THE
NEW PLACE I
FOUND WAS
CLOSE TO MY
OLD PLACE,
SO WHAT I DO
REMEMBER
IS STRAPPING
THE GUITAR I'D
PURCHASED
LONG AGO
TO MY BACK
(CAN'T PLAY IT,
WON'T
PLAY IT)...

WHIRL
C113
C113
WHIRL

WHAT IF
THEY SAY
MY ROOM
STINKS?!

THIS IS
NOT A
HEALTHY
HEART-
BEAT!!

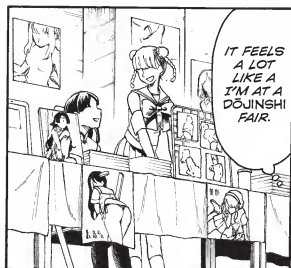
THE NIGHT
BEFORE
THE FIRST
DAY OF
WORK,
I WAS A
MESS OF
NERVES.

MY AS-
SISTANTS
ARE
COMING
TOMOR-
ROW!!
WHAT DO
I DO?!

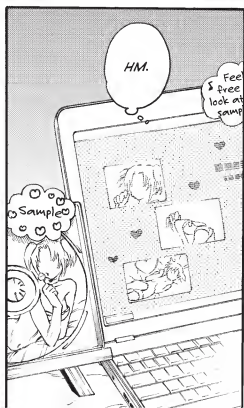
I FINISHED
MOV-
ING AND
FOUND
ASSIS-
TANTS
WITH-
OUT TOO
MUCH
TROUBLE.

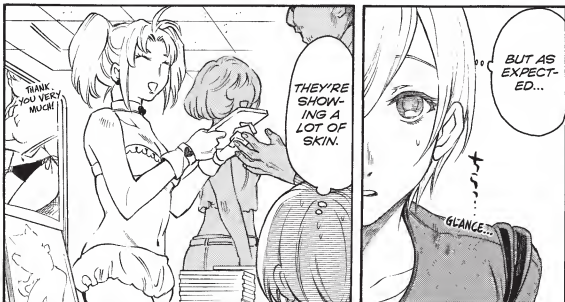
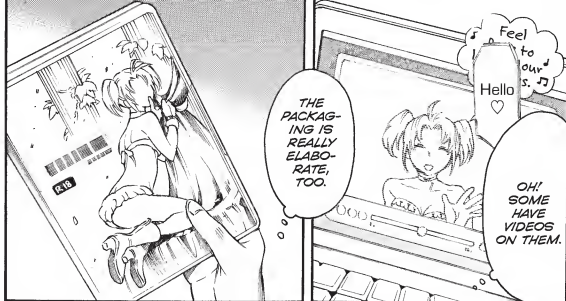
WHIRL
C113





Note: 1,000-1,500 yen is about 10-15 USD.





BUT THERE'S
A DISTINCT
DIFFERENCE
IN THE
AMOUNT OF
PEOPLE WHO
WILL GO SEE
THEM.



SO THE
R-18 THING
DEFINITELY
DOESN'T
APPLY TO
EVERYONE.

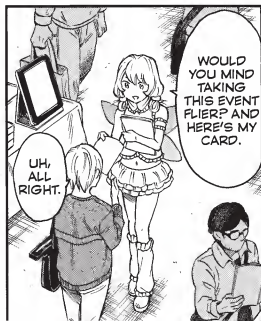
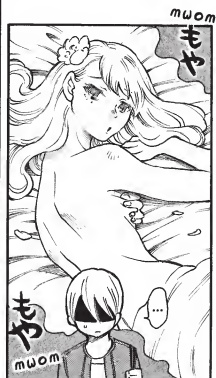
350 PHOTOS
500 YEN!
* No erotic content!

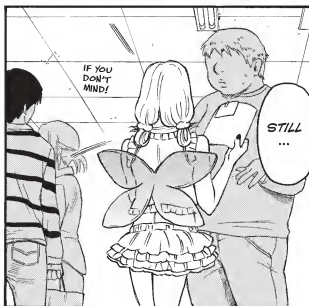
SOME OF THE
PEOPLE HERE
ARE SELLING
COS-ROMS
JUST TO GET
PEOPLE TO
SEE A COSPLAY
THEY WANT TO
REMEMBER.

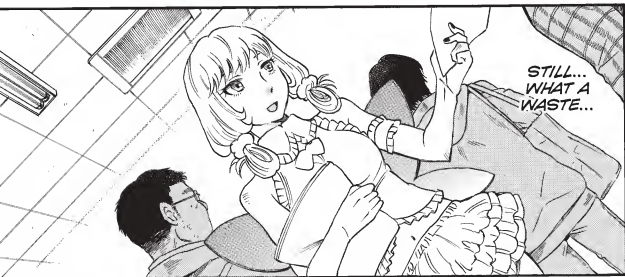
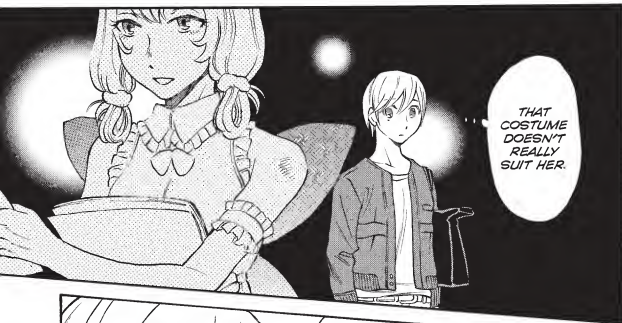
IF THAT
SOMETHING
IS EXPOSED
SKIN...

...THEN
YOU NEED
TO BRING
SOMETHING
MORE TO
THE TABLE
THAN YOUR
OWN SATIS-
FACTION.

BUT
IF YOU
WANNA
MAKE A
PROFIT
...







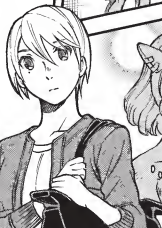


GASP
は

THAT
GIRL
IS...



HER
SKIRTY'S
TOO LONG.



I SEE
YOUR
TAPE.



YOU
DIDN'T
COME
HERE TO
THINK
ABOUT
THOSE
THINGS.

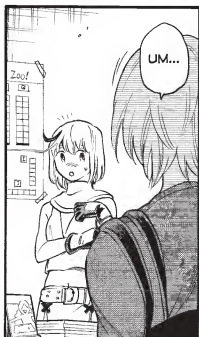
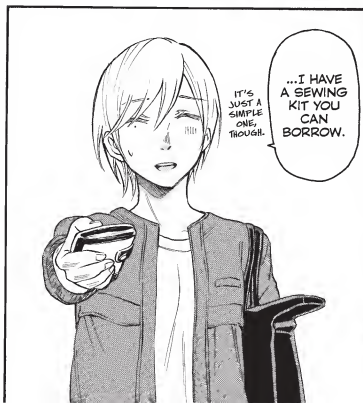
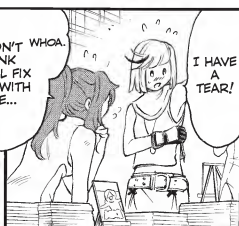
STOP
IT.

IT'S
A BAD
HABIT.

I WANTED TO
LOOK FOR
SOMETHING
I COULD DO,
BUT I CAN'T
STOP MYSELF
FROM
LOOKING
AT ALL THE
COSPLAYERS'
FLAWS.

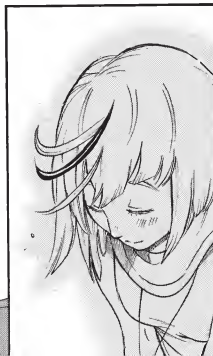
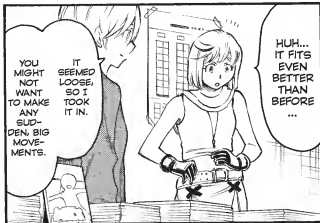
WHAT
IS
THAT?

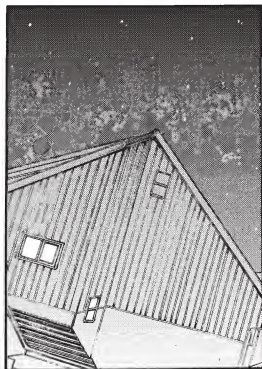
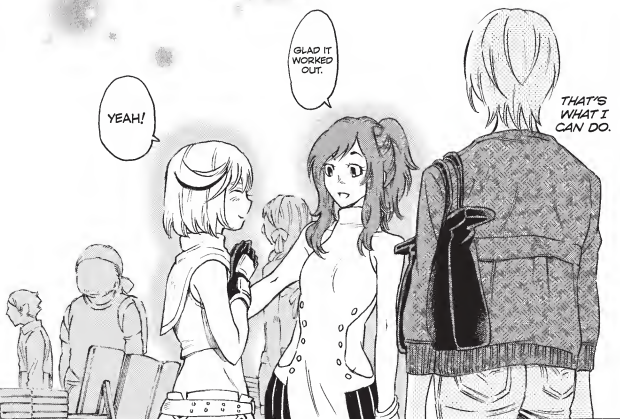
YOU
SAY
YOU'RE
LOOKING
AT 'EM
BECAUSE
YOU
WANT
TO
BE
A
COSPLAYER
YOURSELF.
BUT
YOU
CAN'T
STOP
YOURSELF
FROM
LOOKING
AT
THE
FLAWS
OF
OTHER
COSPLAYERS.
THAT'S
NOT
A
GOOD
HABIT.

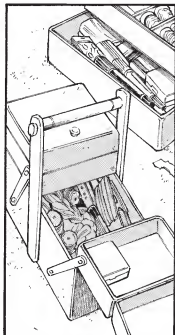
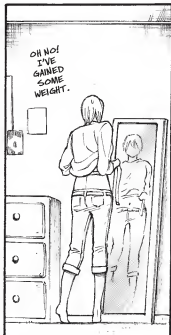
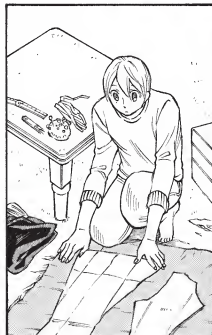
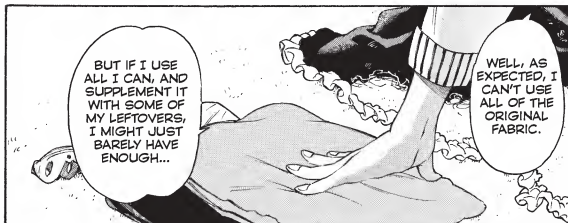


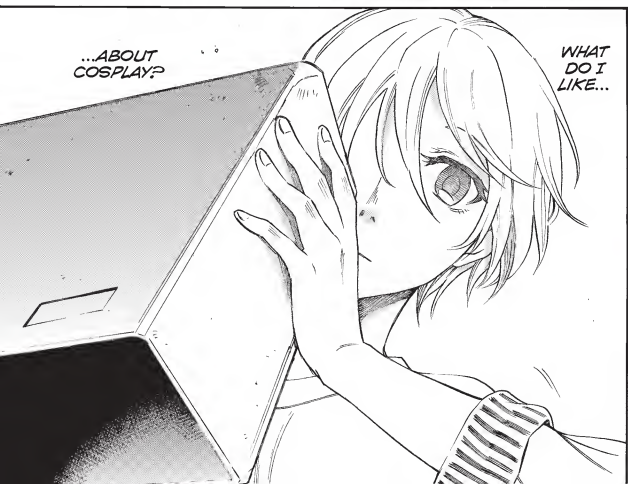
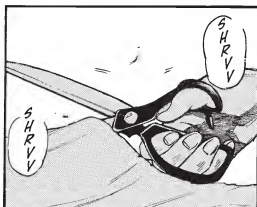
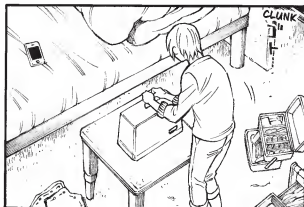
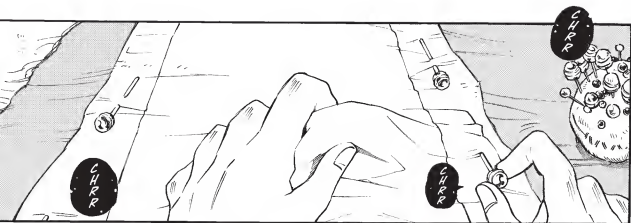


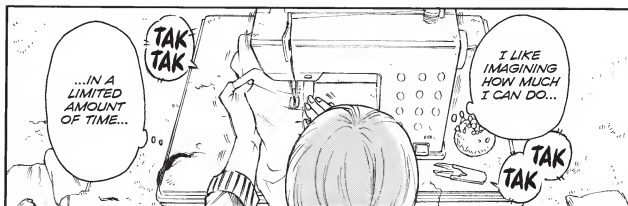
HOW IS THAT?

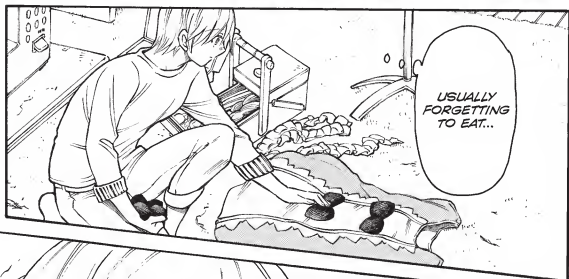
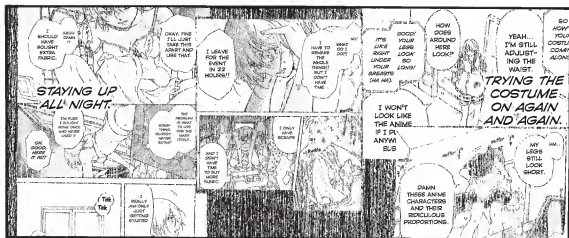












I LOVED
SPENDING
MY TIME
LIKE THIS.

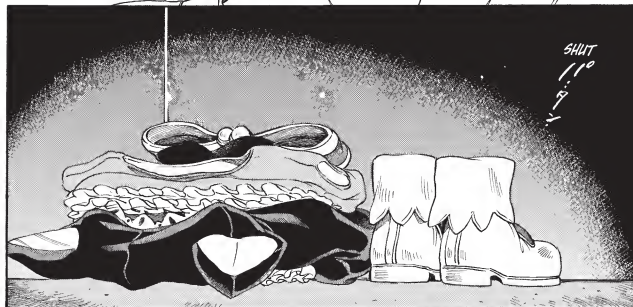




...A LOT OF
DREAMS.

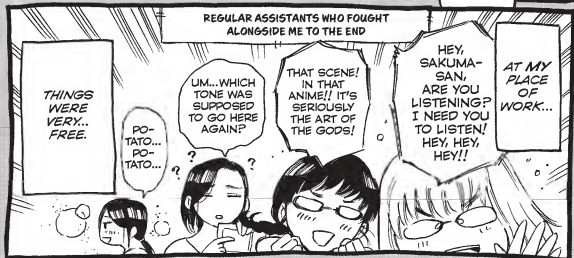
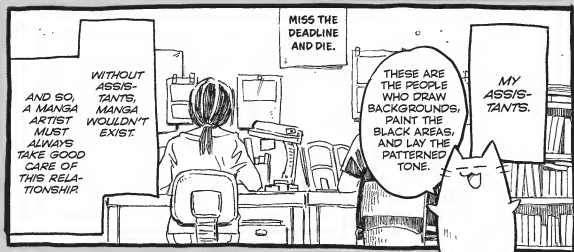
YOU'VE
GIVEN
ME...





п.47 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ п.48

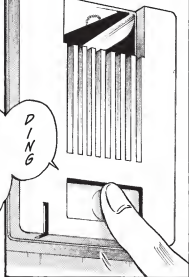
247 120 200



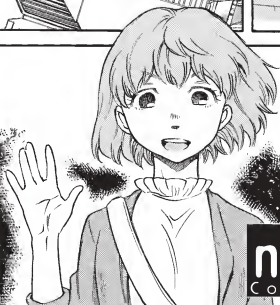


DONG

DING



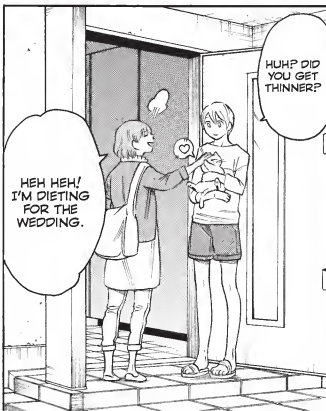
LONG
TIME NO
SEE!



HI.

n.48
Complex age

HEH HEH!
I'M DIETING
FOR THE
WEDDING.

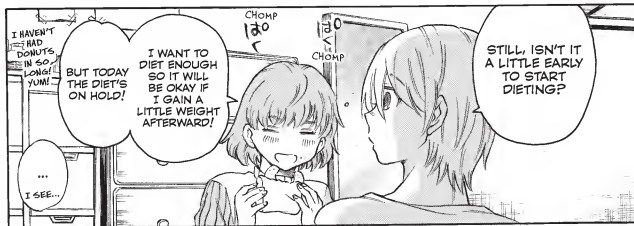


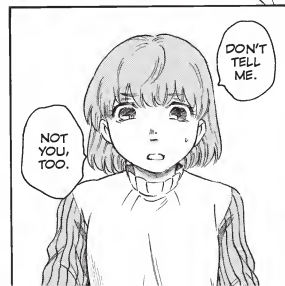
HUH? DID
YOU GET
THINNER?

COME
ON IN,
KIMIKO.



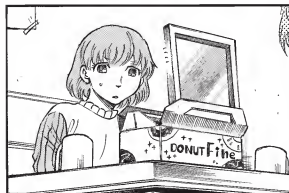
PRR
♡







YOU'RE NOT
QUITTING,
ARE YOU?



YOU UGH.
REALLY
ARE
HASTY.



AND
NOW...



I JUST
DON'T NEED
THE URURU
COSTUME
ANYMORE,
THAT'S ALL.

I PUT HER
AWAY FOR
SAFE-
KEEPING.



...I'M
LOOKING
FOR A NEW
SHAPE FOR
MY HOBBY.

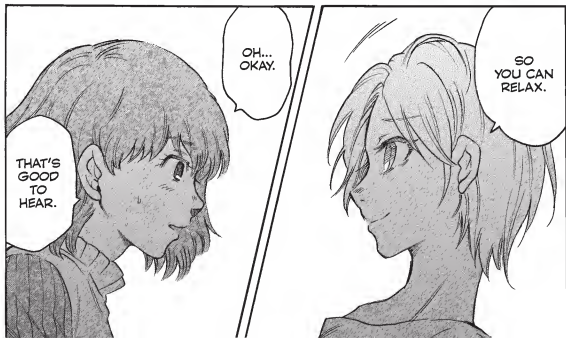


Ha
ha
ha.

AND I
THINK I'VE
ALMOST
GOT IT.

I'M LOOKING
FOR MY OWN
WAY TO KEEP
CONFRONTING
COSPLAY. I
NEED MY OWN
ANSWER.

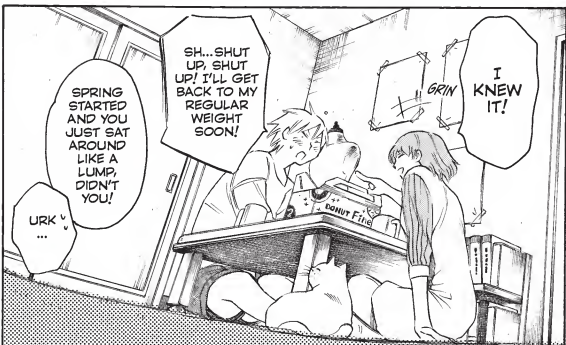
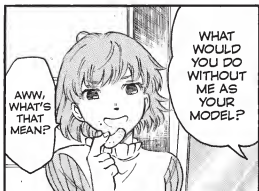
SHAPE
...?

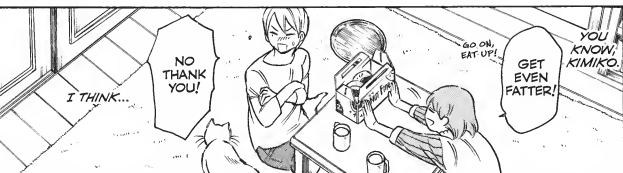


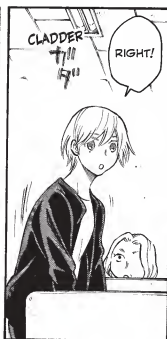
THAT'S
GOOD
TO
HEAR.

OH...
OKAY.

SO
YOU CAN
RELAX.









SHE IS.

...OR SHE IS IT ME...
A REAL GO-GETTER TODAY?



THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT.



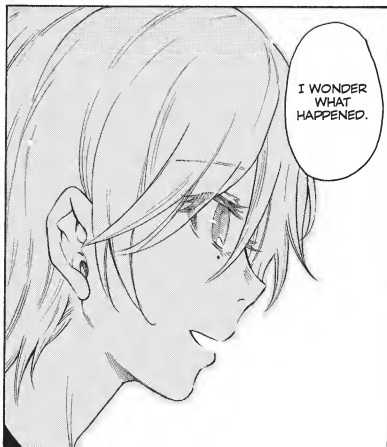
BUT WE SEE EVERYTHING, SO IT'S NOT THAT SECRET.

BUT SHE DOES DO HER JOB.

SECRETLY PLAYING WITH HER SMARTPHONE

TYPICAL YOUNG PERSON.

NOR-MALLY...

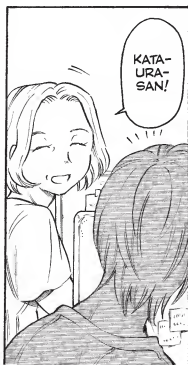
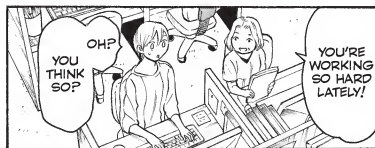


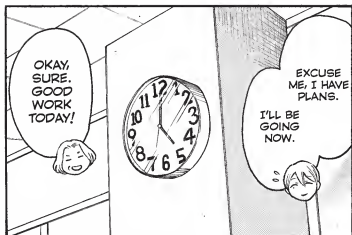
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED.

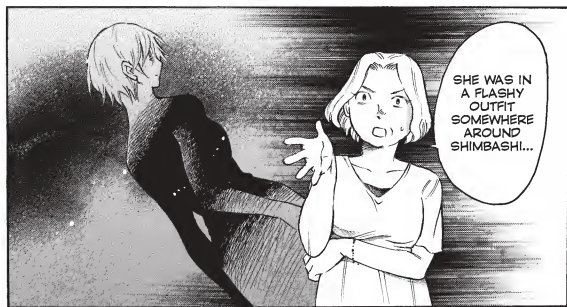
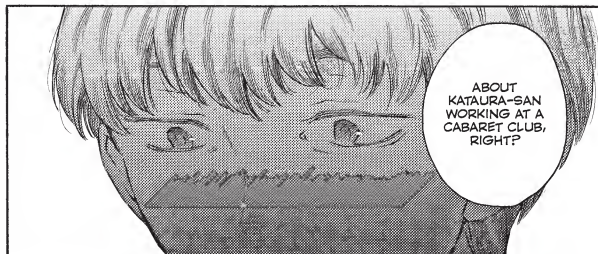
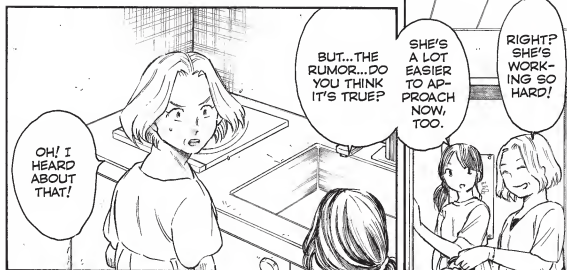


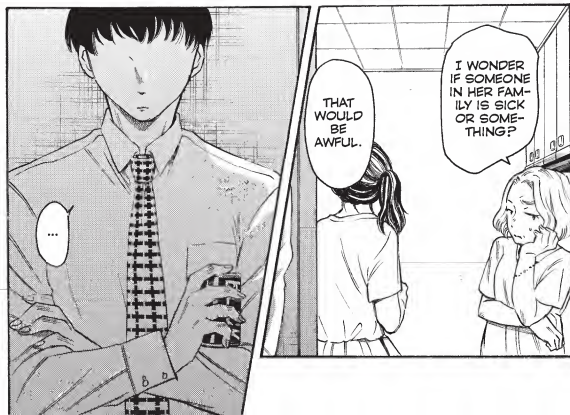
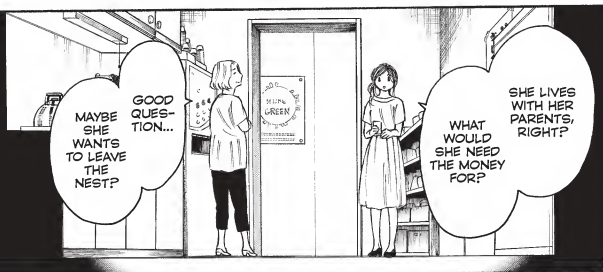
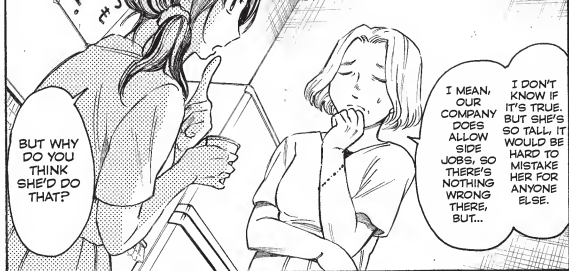
IN ANY CASE, IT'S A GOOD TREND.

YEAH.

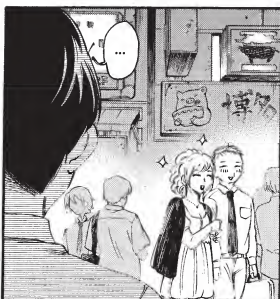














I'LL
TAKE
ONE
MORE
LAP
AROUND
AND
THEN
GO
HOME.

I'M NOT
FAMILIAR
WITH THIS
AREA.

UNLIKE
AKHABARA.

NOT, SUR-
PRISINGLY,
FINDING
HER IS GO-
ING TO BE
ALMOST IM-
POSSIBLE.



I'MMM
FINE.

ARE...ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

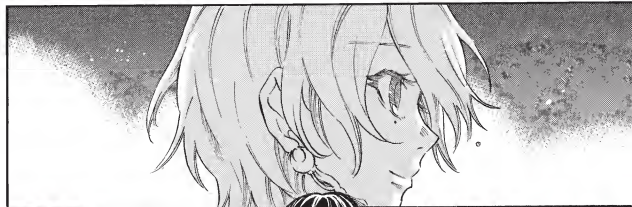
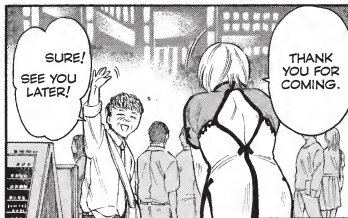
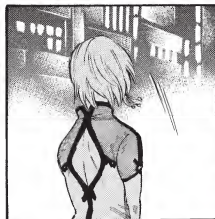


YERRR
SO BIG.



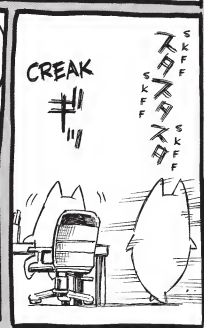
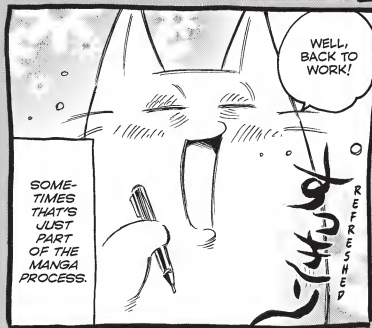
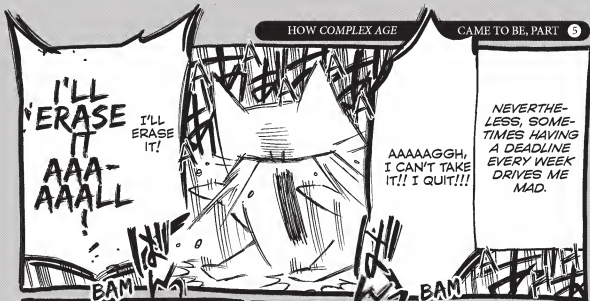
A black and white manga-style illustration. In the foreground, a young man with short, dark hair is leaning his head against the shoulder of a young woman. He has a content, slightly smiling expression. The woman has short, light-colored hair and a surprised or blushing expression, with her hand near her face. She is wearing a light-colored, sleeveless dress with a dark, decorative lace or ruffled trim along the neckline and hem. The man is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved shirt under a dark vest or jacket, dark trousers, and a shoulder bag. A speech bubble from the man contains the text "I CAN JUST LEAN ON YOU!". In the background, there is a modern building with large windows and a glass facade. To the left, a young man in a white shirt and tie is walking away, carrying a briefcase. Other figures are partially visible in the background. The overall style is typical of Japanese manga art.

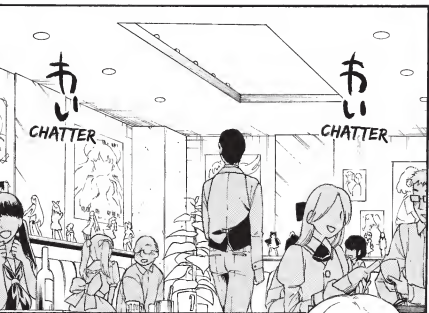
I CAN
JUST LEAN
ON YOU!





n.48 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.49





SO, HAVE YOU, LIKE, CO-SPLAYED IT?

YES, I DO.

WHAT'S THAT, YUMASAN?! YOU LIKE MAGIRURU?



NO! I DON'T SEE IT!

I COS-PLAYED... URURU.



I KNOW! YOU WERE LILY, RIGHT? YOU'D MAKE A GREAT LILY!

YES, I...

ACTUALLY...

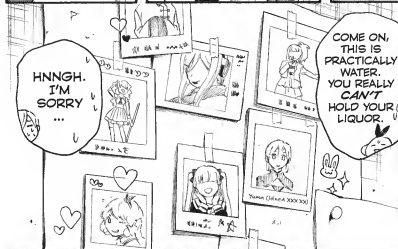
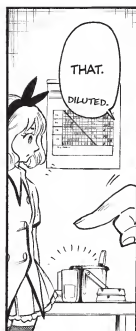


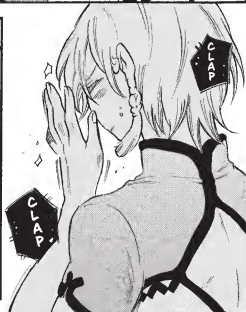
YEAH, REALLY! YOU'RE JUST SO TALL, YUMASAN!

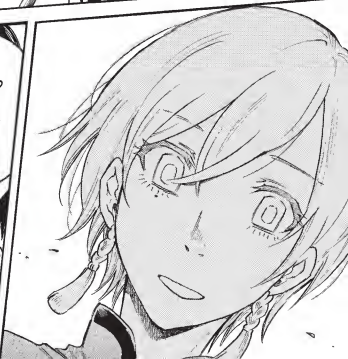
REALLY? YOU DON'T?

HEH HEH...

GA HA HA HA!









HUH?
YUMA-
SAN?

I'M
SORRY.
IT'S
YUMA-
SAN
HERE,
ISN'T IT?



KATAURA-
S...

OH.



MAKE YOUR-
SELF COM-
FORTABLE!
♡



POFF

WHAT ARE
YOU JUST
STAND-
ING THERE
FOR?

SIT DOWN,
SIT DOWN.

ALL
RIGHT,
SIR.



SHIVER

SHIVER

SHIVER

WELL, I'M
GLAD...



わははは
WA
HA
HA
HA...

5	Mahjong Club Odatsumi
4	Cabaret
3	Cabaret
2	Cosplay NyaCos
1	Chinese Pub

I SAW THE
NAME OF
THE PLACE
AND IT
CLICKED
IMMEDI-
ATELY.

I DIDN'T
WANT
TO BE
FOUND...

...I
MANAGED
TO FIND
YOU.

3-4F Cabaret Club

WELCOME

FIRST OF ALL, NONE OF THEM HAVE SHORT HAIR.

5F Mahjong Club

RATTLE

I CAN BARELY SEE THROUGH ALL THE CIGARETTE SMOKE...

BUT BASED ON YOUR COSTUME, YOU COULD HAVE BEEN ANYWHERE.

1F Chinese Pub

I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU GO TO THE TROUBLE...

I HEAR ANGRY SHOUTS FROM INSIDE.

SO I SEARCHED THE BUILDING TOP TO BOTTOM.

OH.

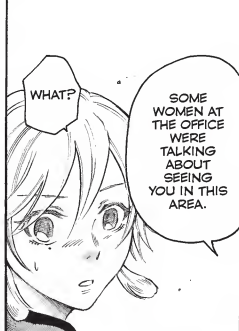
THANK YOU.

SO... WHY ARE YOU HERE, DIRECTOR HASE?

WELL... YES.

I APOLOGIZE. YOU MUST BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME HERE.

I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE.





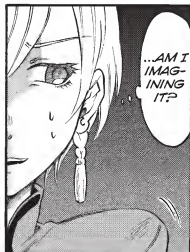
I SEE.

I CAN'T
DRINK ALCOHOL...
BUT I
FEEL LIKE
THAT'S
THE ONLY
PROBLEM.

YES. ALL
THE GIRLS
I WORK
WITH
AND THE
CUSTOM-
ERS HAVE
SIMILAR IN-
TERESTS—
MANGA
AND
ANIME AND
GAMES.



DO YOU
LIKE IT
HERE?



...AM I
IMAG-
INING
IT?



OH,
NOTH-
ING.

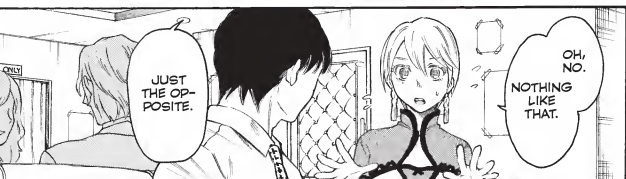


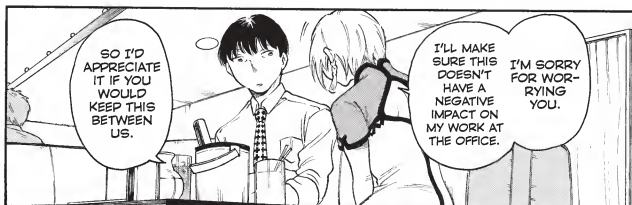
WH...
WHAT
IS IT?



OH.
SINCE
WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT IT, I
CAN'T HELP
WONDERING
MYSELF.

I FEEL LIKE
DIRECTOR
HASE'S GAZE IS
MORE PIERCING
THAN USUAL...





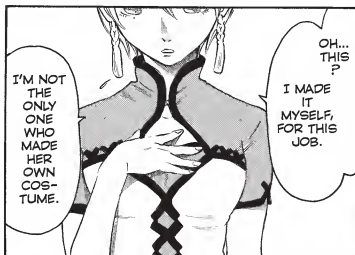


AND AN-OTHER THING.



PART OF MY JOB AS YOUR SUPERIOR...

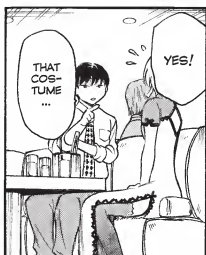
...IS TO SUPPORT MY HARD-WORKING EMPLOYEES.



I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO MADE HER OWN COS-TUME.

OH... THIS ?

I MADE IT MYSELF, FOR THIS JOB.



THAT COS-TUME ...

YES!



OH. YES. UM.

YUMA-SAN, I'M SORRY. COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF TABLE 4?



OH...NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

THE CLUB DOES HAVE SOME COSTUMES THEY RENT OUT, BUT NONE OF THEM FIT ME.

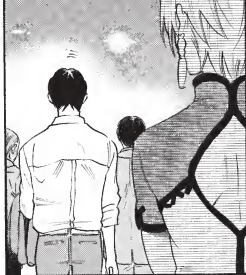


YUMA-SAN, IF YOU'LL SEE HIM OFF.

YES, SIR!

THANKS FOR COMING!

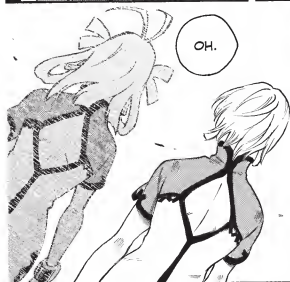
WELL, I'LL JUST EXCUSE MYSELF...



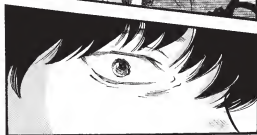
YOU'RE
WELCOME,
AND GOOD
LUCK. I'LL SEE
YOU AT THE
OFFICE.



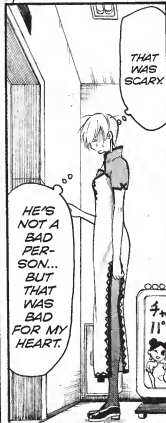
...FOR
TAKING
THE
TROUBLE
TO SEE
ME
TODAY.
THANK
YOU...



OH.

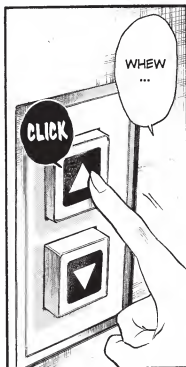


KATAURA-
SAN!



THAT
WAS
SCARY

HE'S
NOT A
BAD
PER-
SON...
BUT
THAT
WAS
BAD
FOR MY
HEART.



CLICK

WHEW
...





Title: Power Pugilist Legends







WAS HE
YOUR: 1) EX-
BOYFRIEND?
2) CURRENT
BOYFRIEND?
3)
BOYFRIEND-
TO-BE?

I'M
GUESSING 3.

SO,
THAT
MAN!

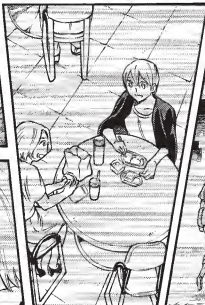
WELCOME
BACK,
YUMA-
CHAN!

JANGLE



Sign: Cosplay Cabaret - NyaCos

Section: Fashion



Six
months
went
by.

October

DON'T
STEP ON
IT, DAD.

TAK

AND
YOU'RE
REALLY
GOING
AT IT
TODAY.
YOU'RE
PULLING
OUT
ALL THE
STOPS.

TAK
TAK

HUH?
YOU'RE
AT IT
AGAIN?

DON'T SAY
THAT! THIS
IS ONE
THING THAT I
ABSOLUTELY
MUST FINISH
ON TIME!

THIS IS
RUFFLE HELL.
I SEW AND I
SEW, BUT MY
LIFE GOES
ON, NEVER /
ANY EASIER
(ETC.)

SIGH...

12

UGH, WHY
DO I HAVE TO
HELP YOU?

TAK
TAK

THAT
REMINDS
ME, THIS
IS A
GOOD
TIME TO
TELL
YOU.

OH...
YEAH.

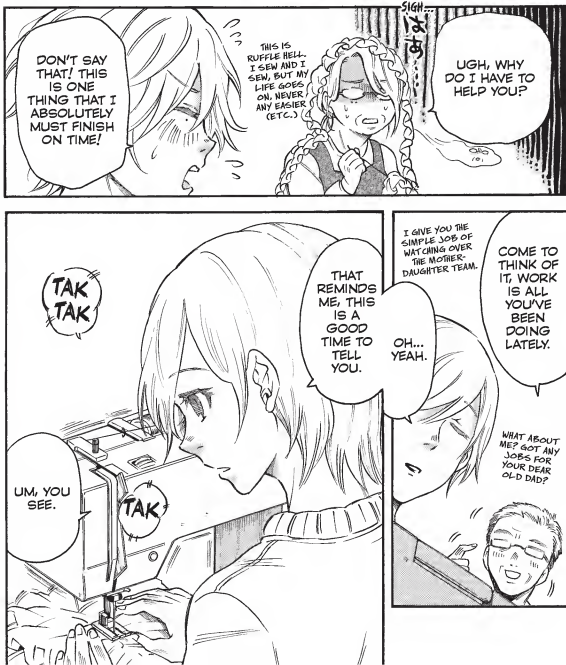
I GIVE YOU THE
SIMPLE JOB OF
WATCHING OVER
THE MOTHER-
DAUGHTER TEAM.

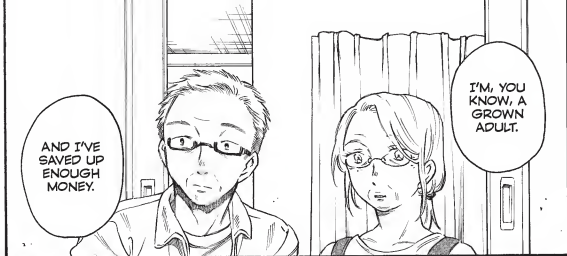
COME TO
THINK OF
IT, WORK
IS ALL
YOU'VE
BEEN
DOING
LATELY.

UM, YOU
SEE.

TAK

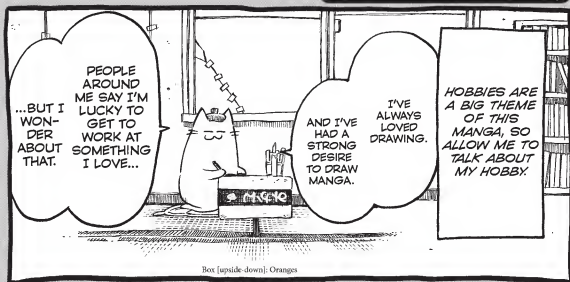
WHAT ABOUT
ME? GOT ANY
JOBS FOR
YOUR DEAR
OLD DAD?





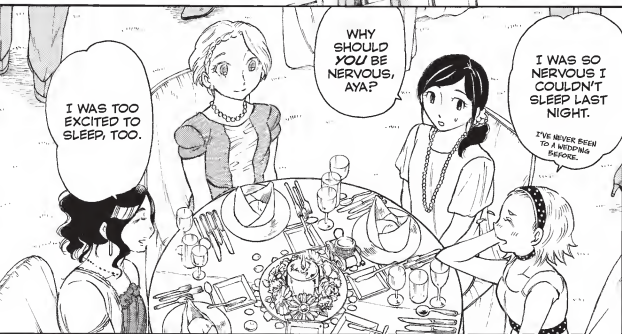


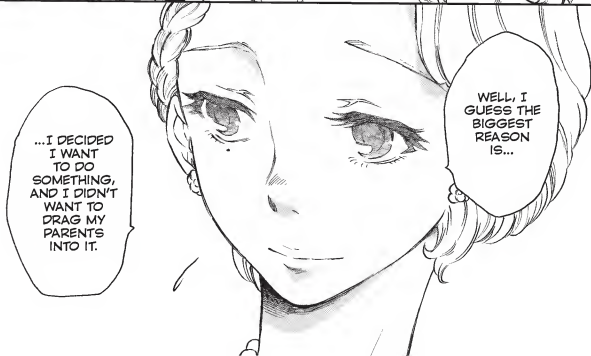
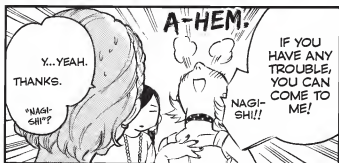
n.49 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.50

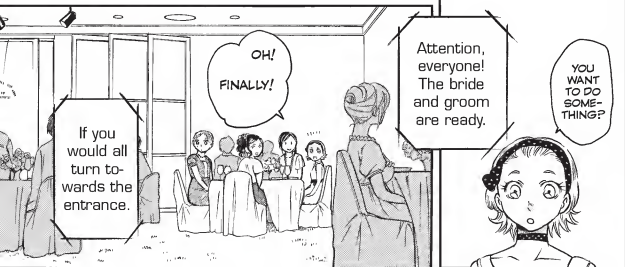


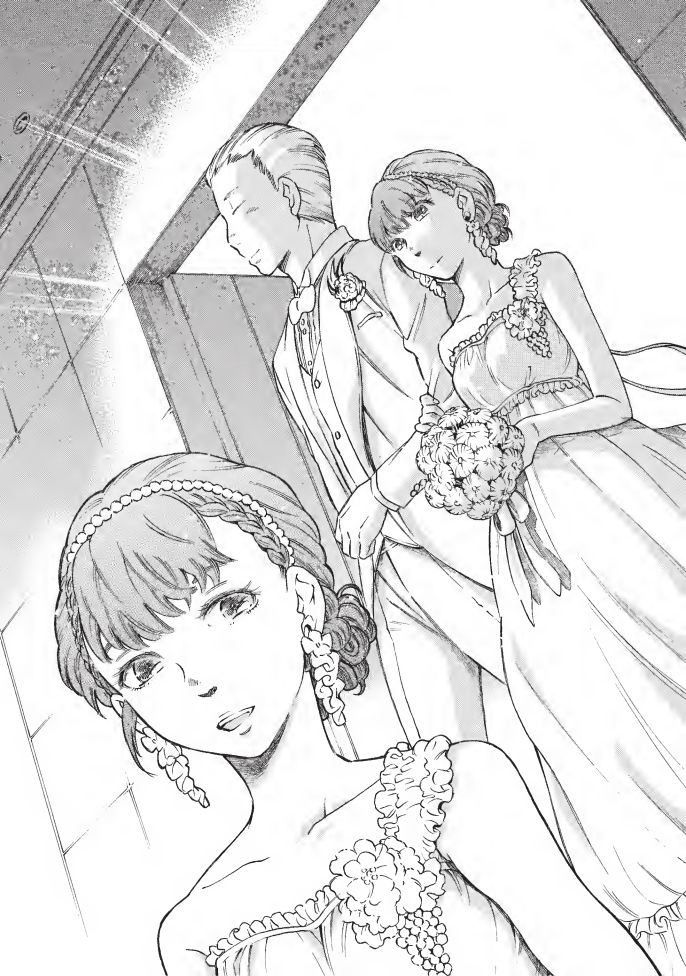


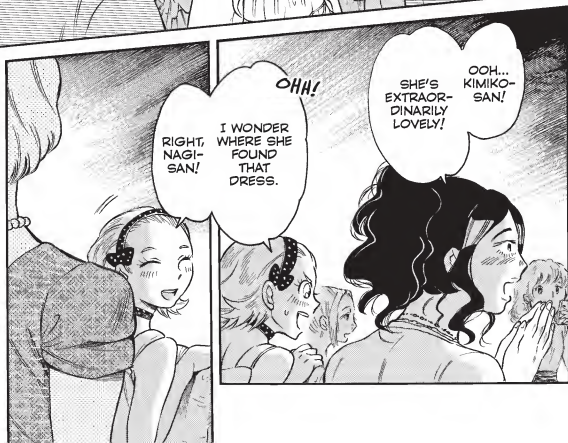
n.50
Complex age

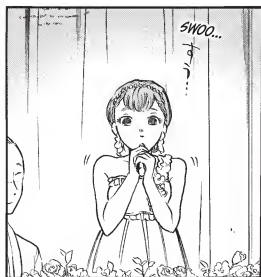
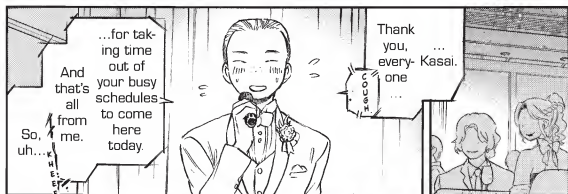
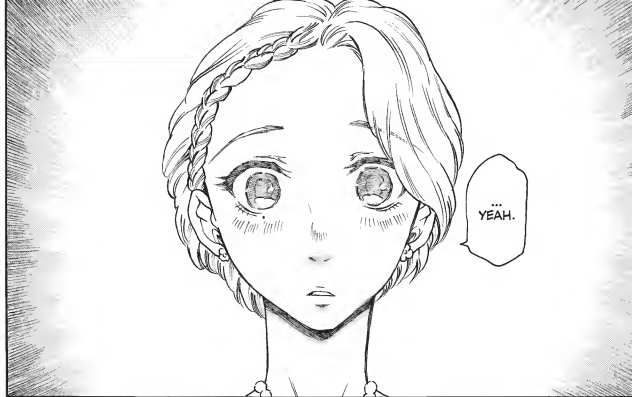


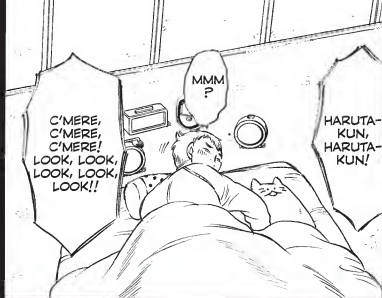










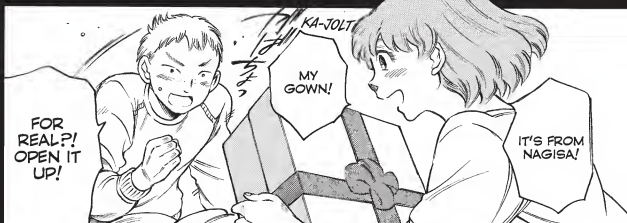


C'MERE,
C'MERE,
C'MERE!
LOOK, LOOK,
LOOK, LOOK,
LOOK!!

HARUTA-
KUN,
HARUTA-
KUN!



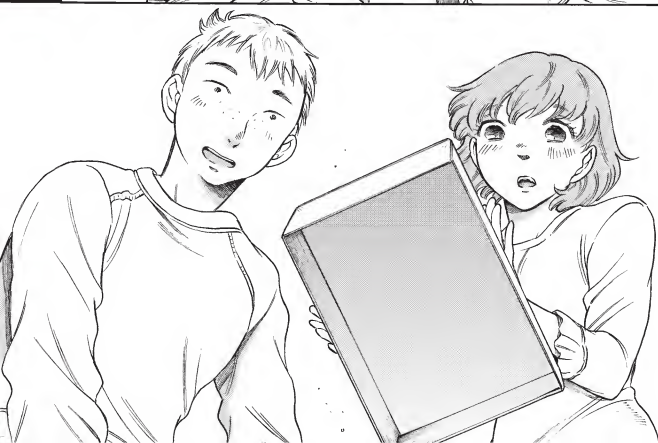
Six
months
before the
wedding

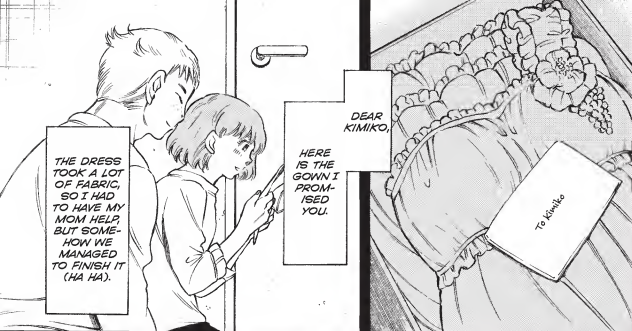


FOR
REAL?!
OPEN IT
UP!

MY
GOWN!

IT'S FROM
NAGISA!





THE DRESS
TOOK A LOT
OF FABRIC,
SO I HAD
TO HAVE MY
MOM HELP,
BUT SOME-
HOW WE
MANAGED
TO FINISH IT
(HA HA).

DEAR
KIMIKO,

HERE
IS THE
GOWN I
PROM-
ISED YOU.

To Kimiko



I
THOUGHT
LONG
AND
HARD
ABOUT
WHAT.

...AS
YOUR
FRIEND.

SCRITCH

I
WANTED
TO DO
SOME-
THING...

WHEN I
HEARD
YOU
WERE
GET-
TING
MAR-
RIED,



I WANTED
TO CONTR-
IBUTE
TO YOUR
BEAUTY ON
YOUR SPE-
CIAL DAY.

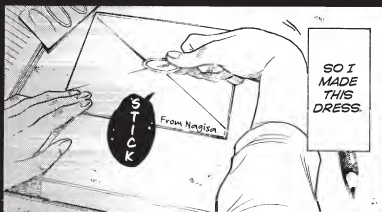
I
WANT-
ED TO
MAKE
SOME-
THING.

...I
WANTED
TO DO
SOME-
THING
ONLY I
COULD
DO.

BUT
...

SCREECH

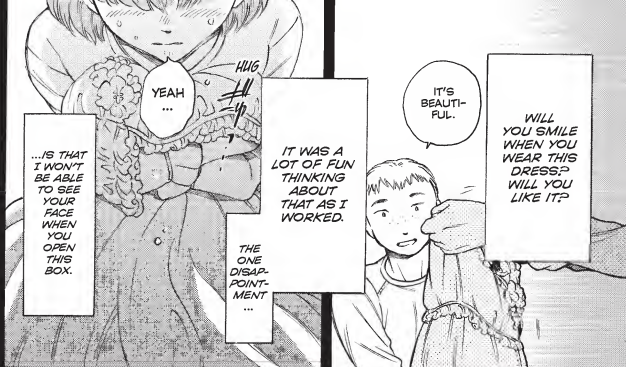
I'M SURE
YOU WOULD
BE HAPPY
WITH JUST
A SIMPLE
CONGRATU-
LATIONS.



SO I
MADE
THIS
DRESS.



Box: Mover Mouse

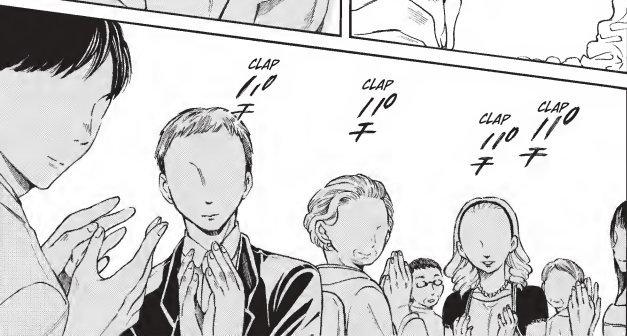


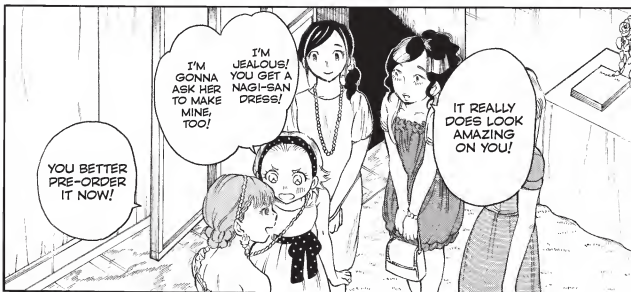
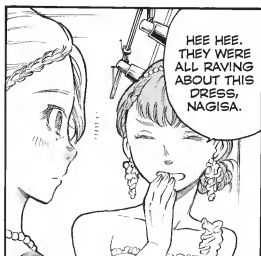
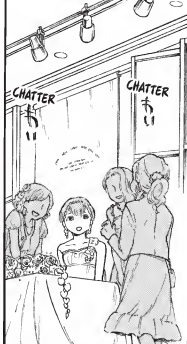


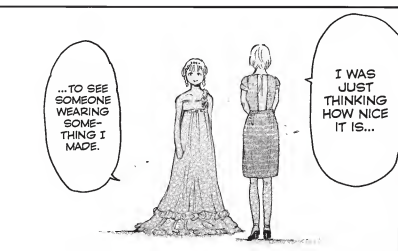
Thank
you so
much.

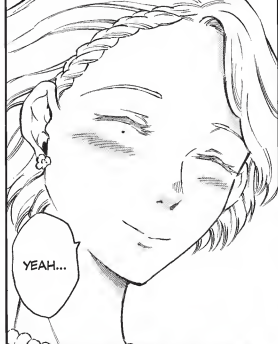


...To say
to my
friend,
who's
awkward
with
everything
but her
hands...









YEAH...



YOU
ALWAYS GAIN
SOMETHING
ELSE. THAT'S
ONE THING
I'M SURE OF.



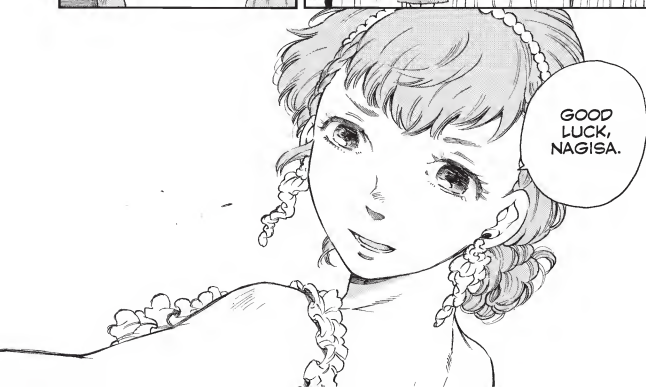
DON'T
WORRY.
YOU'LL
DO JUST
FINE.



PRETTY
WELL. I'M
WORKING
THINGS
OUT, WITH
HAYAMA-
SAN'S HELP.

WELL
?

HOW IS
EVERY-
THING
GOING?



GOOD
LUCK,
NAGISA.

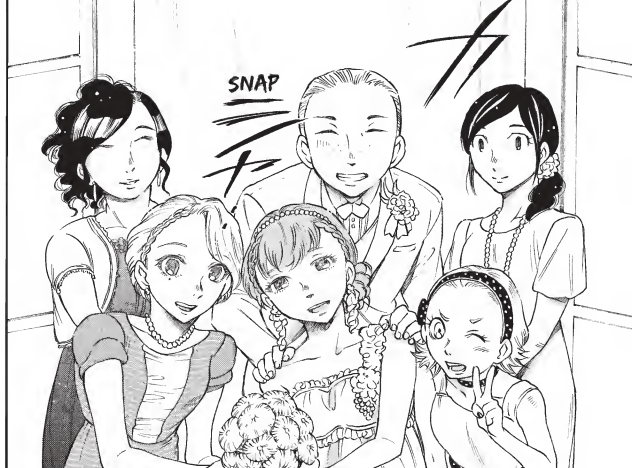


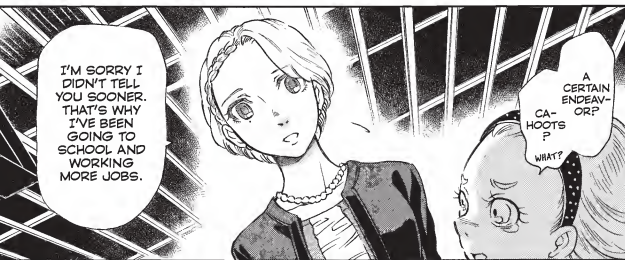
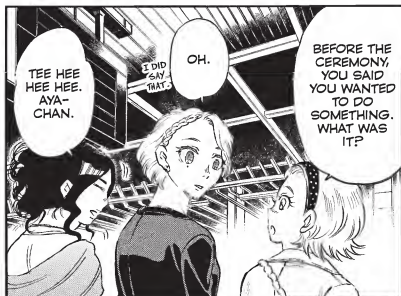
I'LL
ALWAYS
BE ON
YOUR
SIDE.

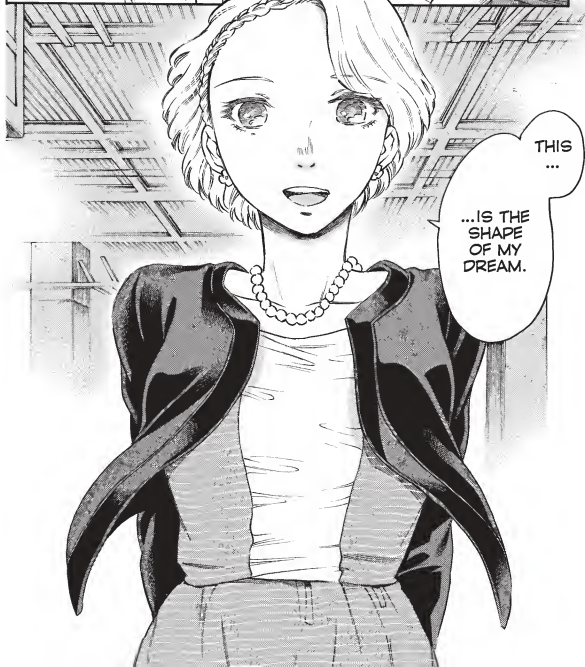
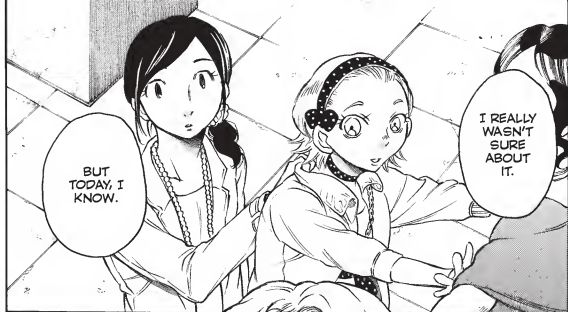


OKAY,
EVERY-
ONE.

SMILE
FOR THE
CAMERA!







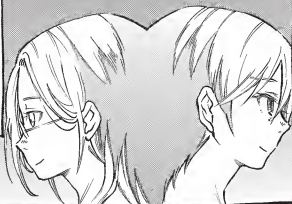


n.50 ▶▶▶▶▶ n.51

WHICH
WAY IS
HAPPIER?
WELL,
THAT'S
GOING TO
DEPEND
ON THE
PERSON.

...AND
HOW THEY
COME TO
TERMS
WITH
THEIR
HOBBIES.

COMPLEX
AGE IS
MY AT-
TEMPT AT
PORTRAY-
ING TWO
PEOPLE...



AND THANKS
TO THAT,
THE WORD
"HOBBY" IS
STARTING
TO LOSE ALL
MEANING TO
ME.

AND
YOU,
TOO!
SEE?

EVERY
DAY, IT
MADE ME
RECON-
SIDER MY
ATTITUDE
ABOUT
MY OWN
HOBBY.

IT'S
JUST A
HOBBY
BUT IT
IS A
HOBBY.

THERE
IS NO
RIGHT
ANSWER
IN
HOBBIES.



YOU HAVE
MY SINCEREST
THANKS FOR
READING.

ANYWAY,
WITH
SUPPORT
FROM MY
READERS, I
MADE IT TO
THE END.

LET US
MEET AGAIN
SOMEDAY.



I'VE NEVER DRAWN A
HEROINE AS TOUGH
AND UN-ADORABLE AS
NAGISA.

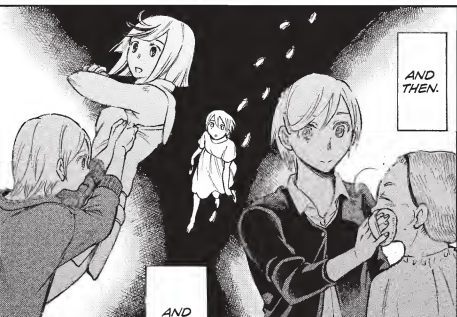
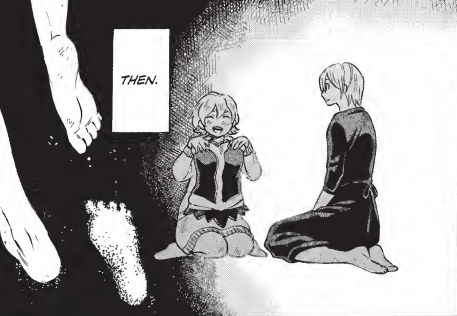
WELL,
NAGISA HAS
COME TO
HER OWN
TERMS.
WHAT KIND
OF LIFE WILL
SHE LEAD
NOW?

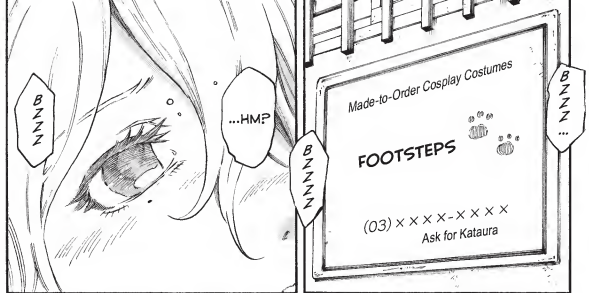
MRK
...

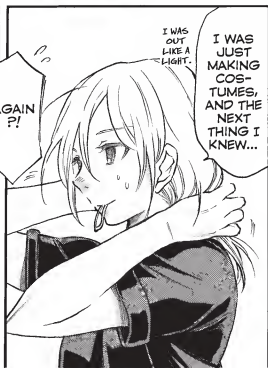
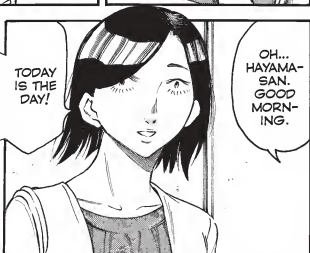
SHE WAS REALLY
DIFFICULT TO
HANDLE...

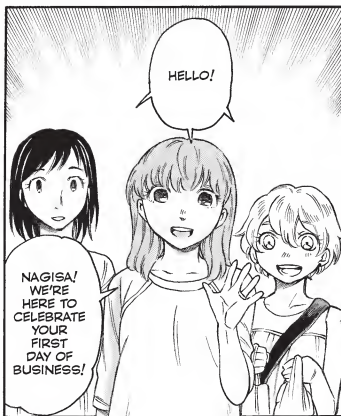
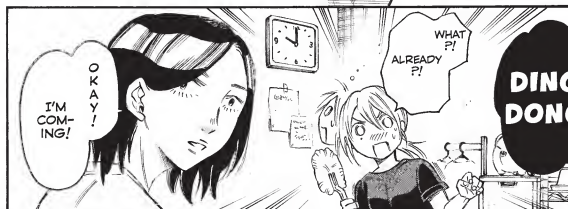
BUT WE
MAINTAINED
A GOOD
DISTANCE.

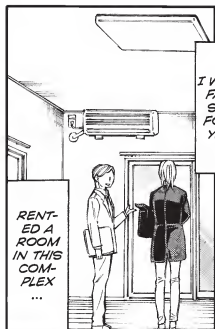












RENT-
ED A
ROOM
IN THIS
COM-
PLEX
...

I WENT TO
FASHION
SCHOOL
FOR TWO
YEARS...



I'VE BEEN
WORK-
ING LIKE
A MAD-
WOMAN
TO
PREPARE
FOR THIS
DAY.

Made-to-Order Costumes **FOOTSTEPS**

(03) XXXX-XX
Representative

AND
TODAY
...

have
official
use for
logical
ing Hood
Uwuu.



I accept
orders for
original
costumes,
too.

MAIL

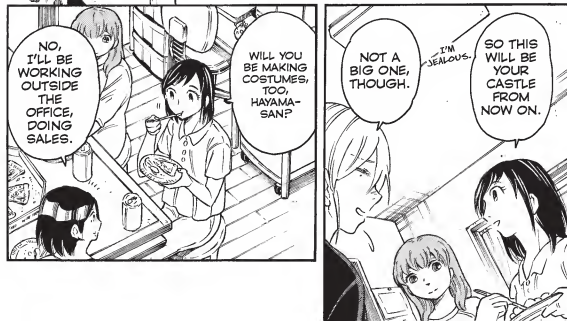
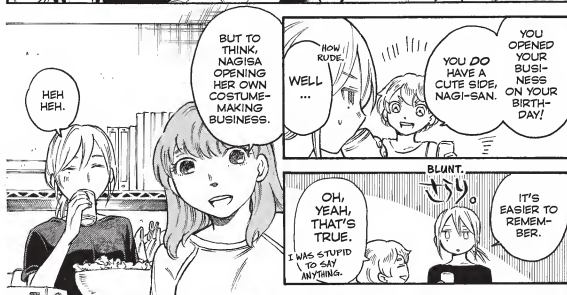
AND
BUILT UP
A COS-
TUME-
MAKING
BUSI-
NESS.

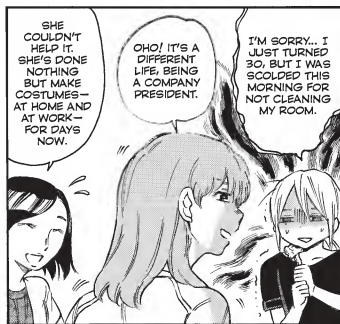
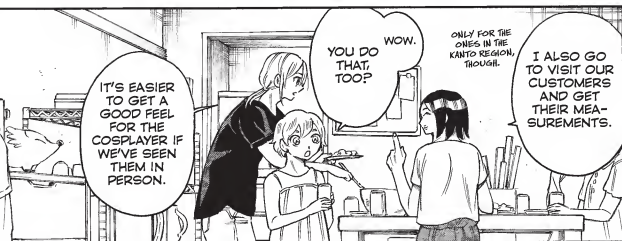
...TO NAGISA
AND HAYAMA-
SAN'S NEW
BUSINESS...



WELL
THEN...

...WE
OPEN FOR
BUSINESS.









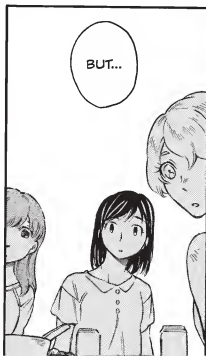
BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I THINK I LIKED MAKING OTHER PEOPLE INTO NEW CHARACTERS, TOO.



IT WAS FUN MAKING MYSELF INTO SOMETHING.



BUT...



I AM PERFECT.

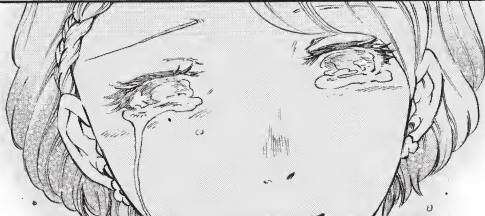
I WAS SO JUST FOCUSED ON MYSELF...

...I NEVER HAD TIME TO NOTICE BEFORE.





THAT
DAY, AT
KIMIKO'S
WEDDING.

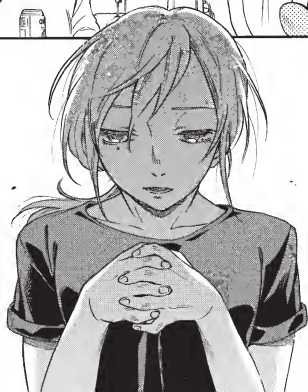
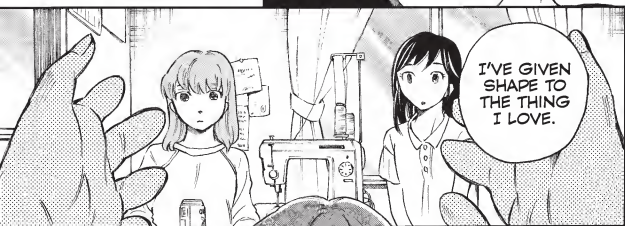


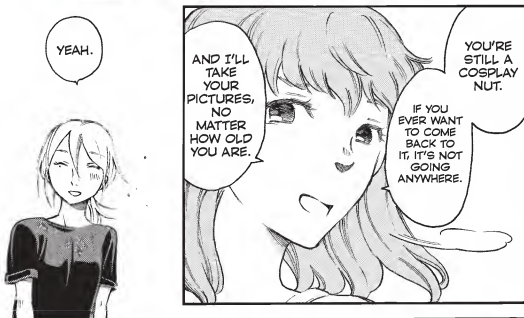
I
KNEW.



SO
YOU'RE
...

...NOT
GOING TO
COSPLAY
ANYMORE?







...WHEN
I'M SUR-
ROUNDED
BY FAB-
RIC...

BUT
...



...I JUST
CAN'T
SIT
STILL!

BAH



CREAK



SHRRV

SHRRV



BA-SHOOM!



RUSTLE



TAK

TAK

TAK

TAK
TAK

*WHEN I'M
DOING THIS, IT
REALLY HITS
ME.*

ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP RUNNING A LITTLE WHILE LONGER AND MORE?

NOW LONG...



EVEN -
WHEN IT
ABANDONS
ME...



I THINK I'M GOING TO STOP COOPERATING.

WHY DO WE HAVE TO RUN?



She's so gigantic, the picture was right there for the taking. I told her she was showing them off?

[illegible]

**EVEN
WHEN I
SHOVE IT
AWAY...**

**BACK
AT IT
AGAIN.**

I FIND MYSELF HERE,

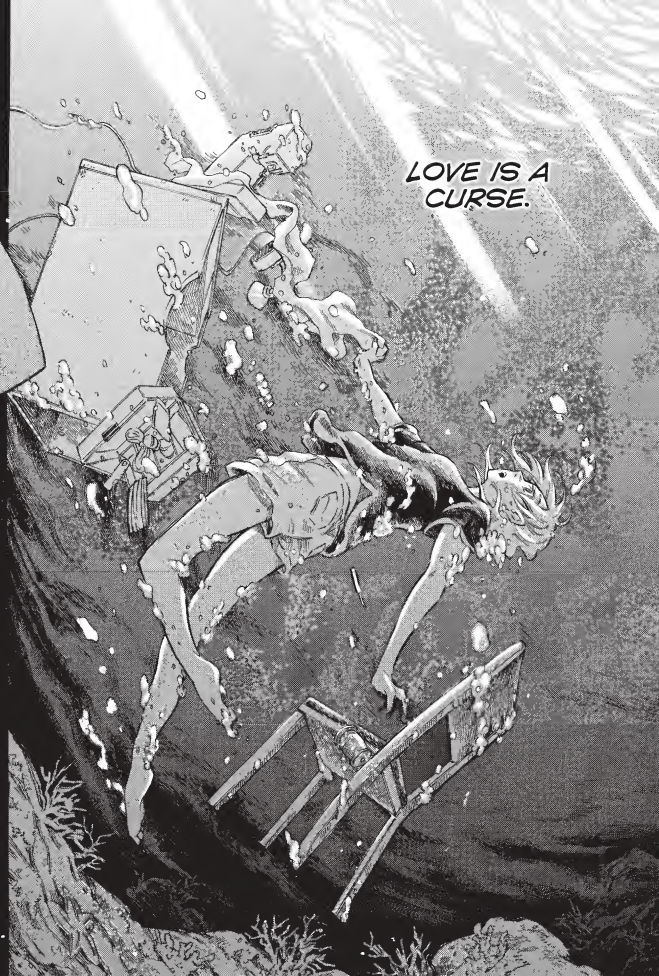


IT'S
SUFFOCATING...

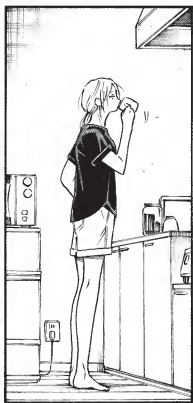
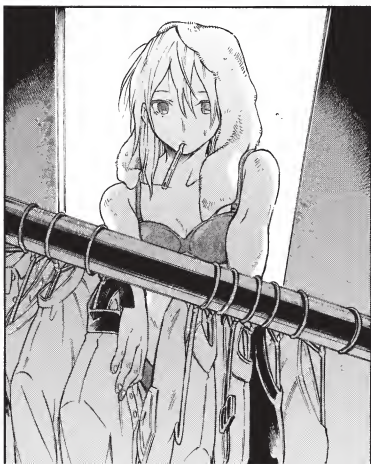
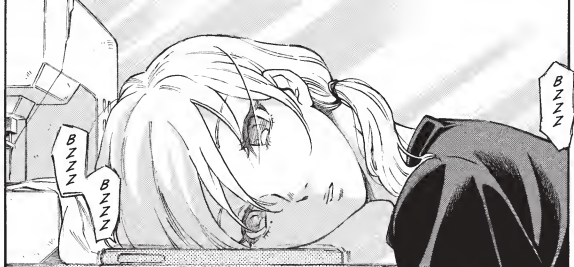


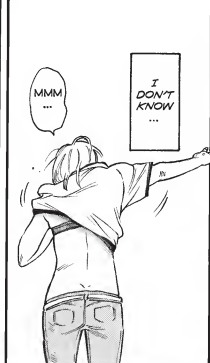
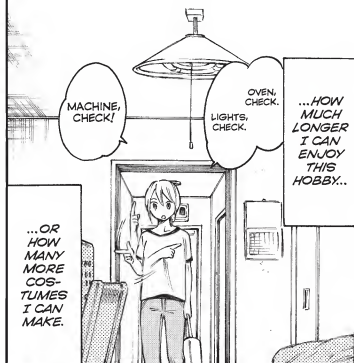
...AND
SO...

...COM-
FORTING.

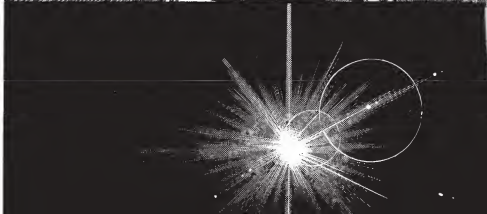
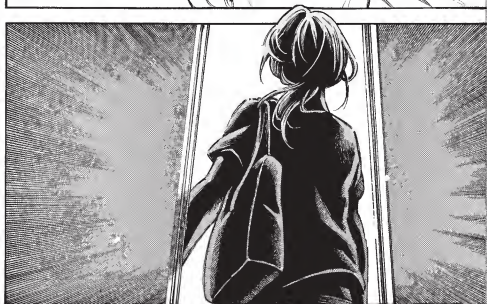


LOVE IS A
CURSE.





...I'M
GOING
TO
FIND
OUT.





n.51 >>>>> n.52

FINALE.

IF EVEN ONE
OF THOSE
THINGS
HAD BEEN
MISSING, I
DON'T THINK
I COULD
HAVE MADE IT
THROUGH THE
YEAR.

TRULY,
THANK
YOU.

SEE YOU
AGAIN.

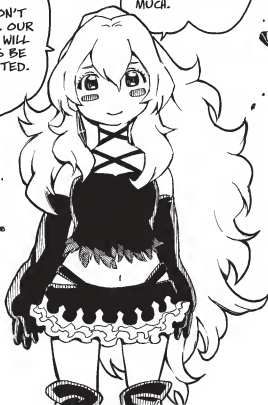
WHAT
SUPPORTED
ME IN THOSE
TIMES WAS, OF
COURSE, MY
READERS, AND
MY ASSISTANTS,
MY EDITORS, MY
FRIENDS, AND
MANGA, ANIME,
AND GAMES!!

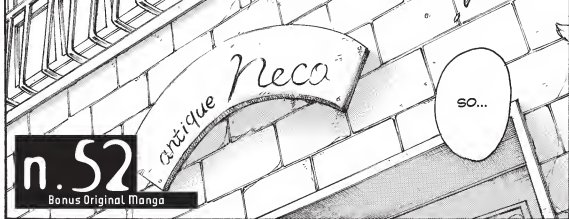
ONE YEAR. THIS
SERIES WAS
ONLY ONE YEAR
LONG, BUT
THERE WERE SO
MANY TIMES MY
FEET DRAGGED
AS I HEADED
TOWARD MY
DESK.

BUT DON'T
FORGET. OUR
HEARTS WILL
ALWAYS BE
CONNECTED.

I'LL
MISS
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

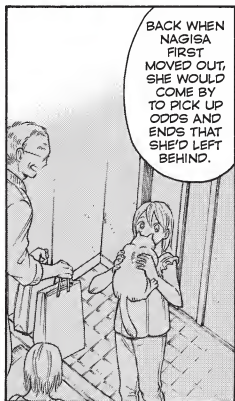
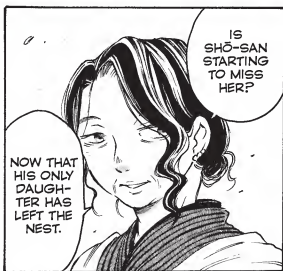
THIS WILL
BE THE
LAST
TIME WE
MEET...

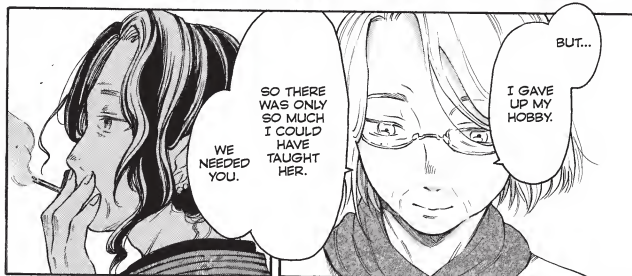




n.52

Bonus Original Manga









OH, I
GET
IT.



...I HOPE
SHE CAN
TALK
TO YOU
AGAIN.



OH, IS
THAT HOW
IT IS?

THE MORE
HELPLESS
THE CHILD,
THE MORE
DEAR SHE
IS.

THAT'S
TRUE.

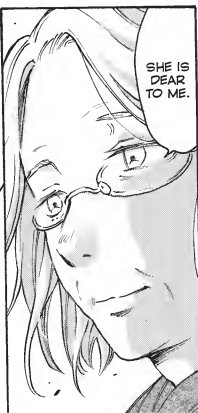
SHŌ-SAN
ISN'T THE
ONLY ONE
HAVING A
HARD TIME
LETTING
HER GO.



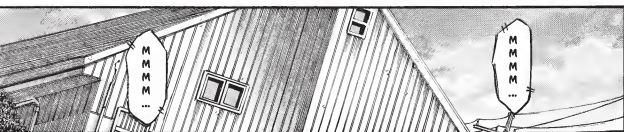
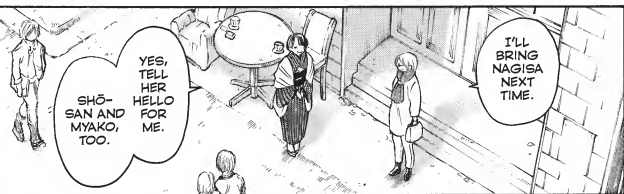
...AS
SHE FOL-
LOWS THE
PATH SHE
STRUG-
GLED SO
HARD TO
FIND.



THAT'S WHY
I HAVE TO
SUPPORT
HER...



SHE IS
DEAR
TO ME.



Made-to-Order Cosplay Costumes

FOOTSTEPS



Ask for: Nagisa Kataura

YEAH!
SEE YOU
LATER!

WELL,
THANKS
FOR
HAVING
US.

YEAH!

NEXT
TIME,
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
WEAR IT
FOR HER.

HEH
HEH
HEH.

YOU GOT
NAGI-SAN'S
SEAL OF
APPROVAL
ON YOUR
COSTUME.

GOOD
FOR
YOU,
AYA.

YEAH. SHE
HAD NO
TIME FOR
EVENTS
WHEN
SHE WAS
GETTING
HER
BUSINESS
STARTED.

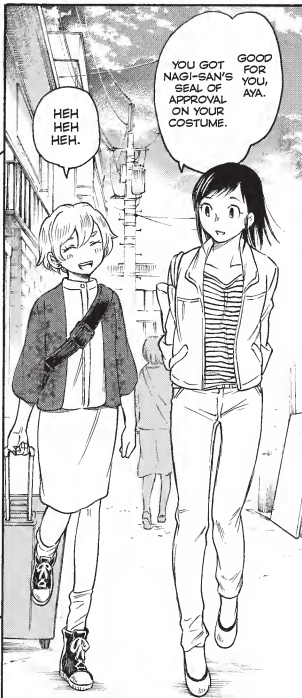
NAGI-SAN
REALLY
WANTS
TO GO TO
WINTER
COMIKET
THIS YEAR.

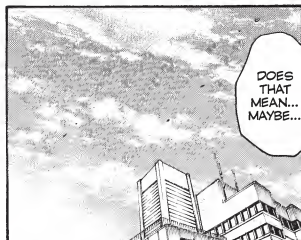
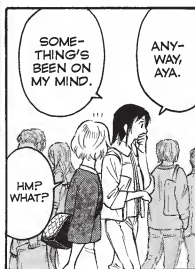
OH!
SHIHO-
CHAN IS
ON FIRE!

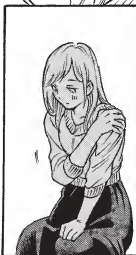
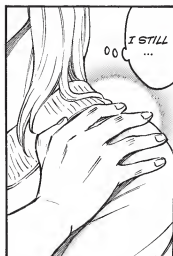
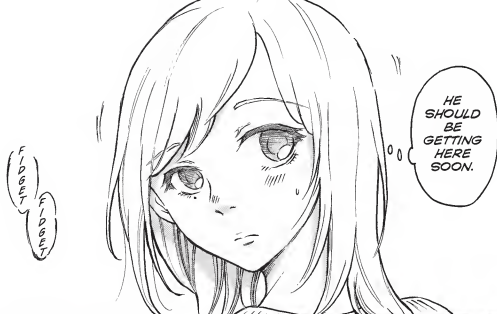
HOT!

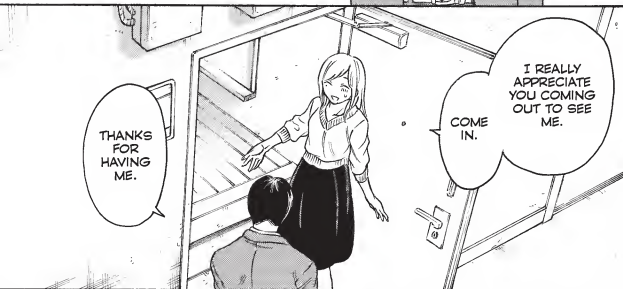
I'D BET-
TER POLISH
MY PHO-
TOGRAPHY
SKILLS SO
KIMIKO-SAN
DOESN'T
BEAT ME.

BURN...



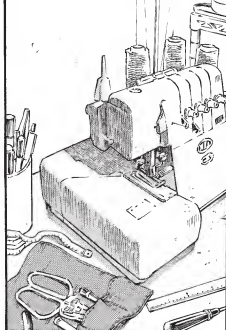




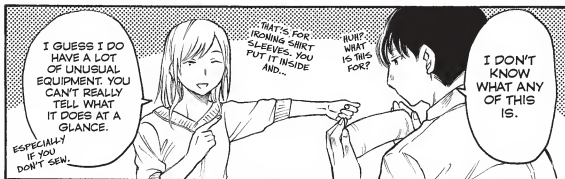




UH-
HUH.
YEAH.



H
M
M
...



I GUESS I DO
HAVE A LOT OF
UNUSUAL
EQUIPMENT. YOU
CAN'T REALLY
TELL WHAT
IT DOES AT A
GLANCE.
ESPECIALLY
IF YOU
DON'T SEW.

THAT'S FOR
IRONING SHIRT
SLEEVES. YOU
PUT IT INSIDE
AND...

HUH?
WHAT
IS THIS
FOR?

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT ANY
OF THIS
IS.



OH,
REALLY?

BUT THANKS
TO ALL OF
HAYAMA-
SAN'S HARD
WORK, I GET
THEM ALL
THE TIME
NOW.



YES,
PLEASE.
THANK
YOU.

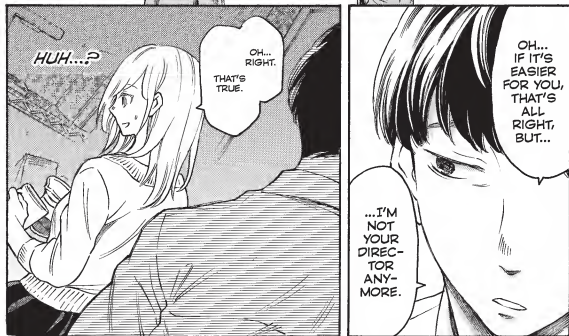
WILL
COFFEE BE
ALL RIGHT,
DIRECTOR
HASE?



IT'S
GOOD.

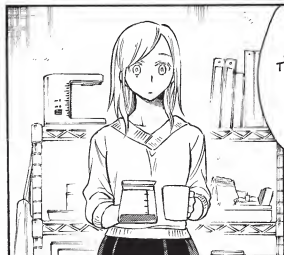
I DIDN'T
GET ANY
ORDERS
AT FIRST.

SO?
HOW IS
BUSINESS?

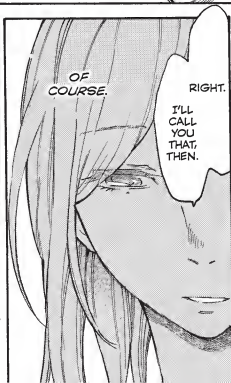


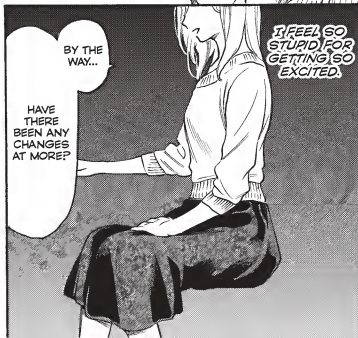
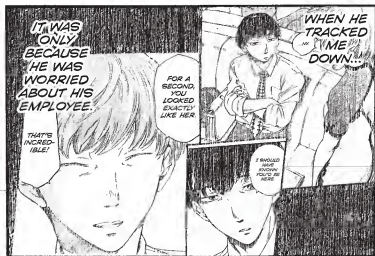
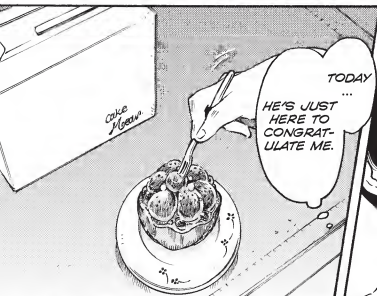


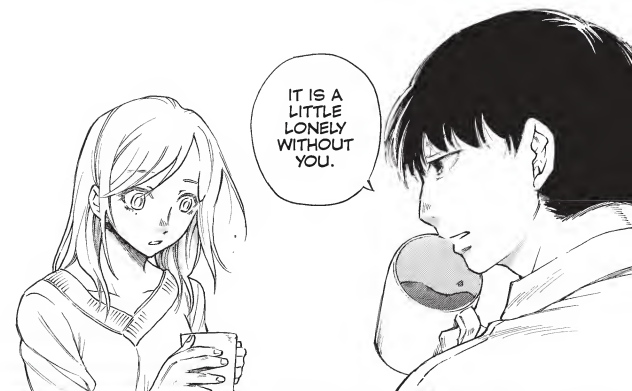
DIRECTOR
HASE'S FIRST
NAME WAS...
MAKOTO, RIGHT?



...WILL DO.
THAT WOULD
BE THE
NORMAL
THING.







IT IS A
LITTLE
LONELY
WITHOUT
YOU.



BUT
APPARENTLY
I LIKE
HAVING
SOMEONE TO
TAKE CARE
OF.

THE NEW
EMPLOYEES
ARE ALL
VERY GOOD
AT WHAT
THEY DO,
WHICH
HELPS.



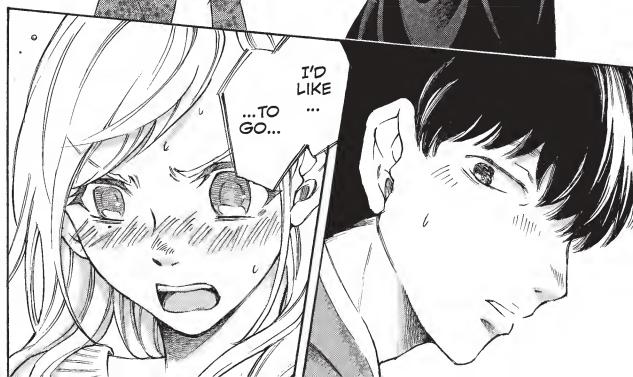
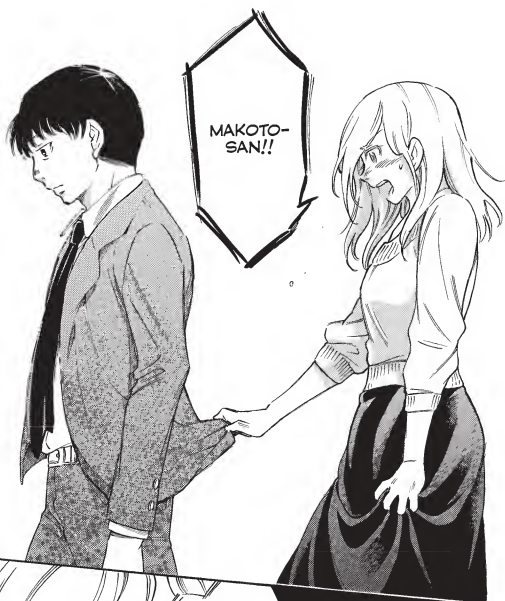
SO I'LL
JUST
EXCUSE
MYSELF.

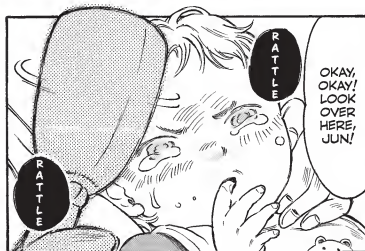
I
WOULDN'T
WANT TO
INTERFERE
WITH YOUR
WORK.



WELL.

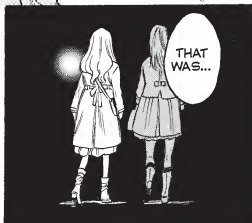


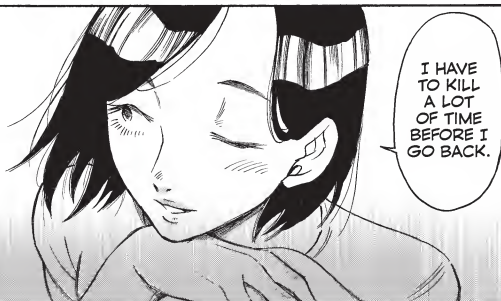


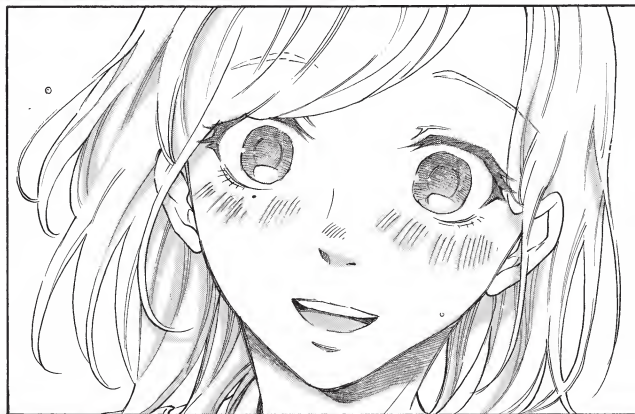




Sign: Café Pomme







Complex **6** age.

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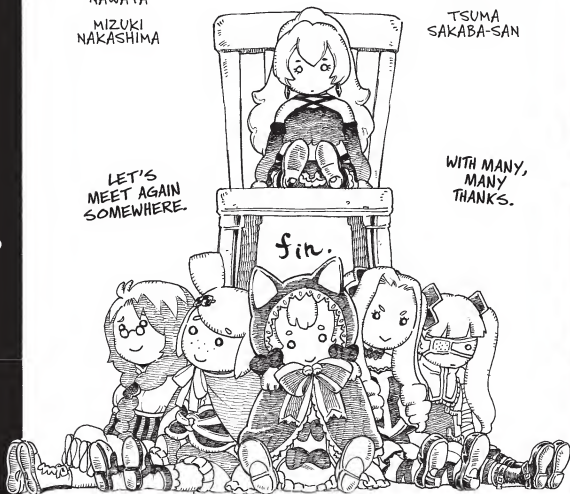
KÔHEI
NAWATA
MIZUKI
NAKASHIMA

SPECIAL THANKS

TSUMA
SAKABA-SAN

LET'S
MEET AGAIN
SOMEWHERE.

WITH MANY,
MANY
THANKS.



Cospedia

[GLOSSARY OF COSPLAY TERMS]

コスプレイモード
Supervisor: **GOSPLA**

The cosplay magazine that has taken over the reins of Cosmade magazine, which ran until spring 2014. It publishes everything related to cosplay, including pinup photos, fan-submitted cosplay photos, and information on costumes, makeup, photography, armor and prop building, and cosplay culture. Released on the 3rd of every even-numbered month. (Published by Fomina.com)



► Page 23 **Shimokitazawa**

There are numerous store-lined streets in



► Page 19 **Antique Shop**

A shop that deals in old furniture, old artwork, etc. A United States tariff act from 1934 defines an antique as "crafts, handicrafts, and works of art which were produced 100 or more years ago," and this definition has been adopted by the WTO (World Trade Organization). Incidentally, items that are fewer than 100 years old are referred to as "vintage" or "junk."

n.44

n.43

► Page 10 **"A lot of enthusiasts my age wear kimono."**

Japanese gath is coming into its own as a subgenre of gothic lolita (see Volume 2: Gothic Lolita), combining traditional Japanese style with gothic lolita. There's also the combination of Japanese style clothing and standard lolita, Japanese Loli. In March 2013, there was a Kogo-Loli fashion show, featuring traditional Japanese crafts by artisans such as Yūzen Kogo.

o part of a store. Many people rent places through personal connections, but there are also stores that will rent out a few square decimeters, and internet services such as Nakisoki.com that will match renters and leasers.

n.45

► Page 46 **"That's amazing, Aya-chan! You're in a magazine!"**

Appearing in cosplay magazines, game magazines, anime magazines, etc. is o type

display in the store fronts of retail stores, department stores, etc. The job doesn't require any special qualifications, but very few people jump into it with no experience. To use the apparel industry as an example, generally someone will get a job at a department store or shop, then, after gaining experience as a salesperson, they will become a buyer.

► Page 29 **"I'm renting the space out to other people."**

For those who want to perform retail on a small scale, there is great merit in renting

the neighborhood surrounding Shimokitazawa Station. Each street has its own unique features, and contains many variety shops and secondhand clothing stores. The district at the south exit has an especially high concentration of fashion and accessory stores. There are also several theaters and music clubs, so it is also known as Taky's theater town. Every year in February, several theaters get together to hold the Shimokitazawa theater festival.

► Page 28 **Buyer**

The person who buys all the products that are on

in a variety of styles, ranging from the 1,000-yen variety to the Styrofoam heads that can be found at the 100-yen shops. It is also possible to make simple ones at home using plastic bottles, etc.

n.46

► Page 74 **Yuzawaya**

A store chain that deals in craft and art supplies, established in Kamato, Tokyo in October 1955. Not only

fabric too much will cause it to wrinkle.

► Page 51 **Wig stand**

A product for storing wigs without flattening them. They are used to prevent tangles during storage, as well as for styling the hair. They come



of status symbol among cosplayers, and many buyers have been known to improve their skills with that goal in mind. When a buyer's picture is published in a magazine, some will post a picture of the page on their Twitter accounts or blogs.

► Page 50 **Vacuum storage bags**

A product that allows for compact storage of blankets and clothes by removing air from the bag. Some have a valve that lets the user suck the air out with a vacuum cleaner, while others have a check valve so the user can push the air out by hand. But a buyer must be careful, because compressing

The common practice is to include a photography ticket as an extra to go with purchases. When an attendee uses the photography ticket, he or she can take a picture of the layer at the event.

p.47

► Page 84
Circle

Short for *dājin* circle. A group of like-minded fans. Almost all circles are formed among close friends and acquaintances. Once a



► Page 79
Cos Rom Market

Events for selling CD(DVD)-ROM discs of cosplay photos and videos. The many events are divided into the target age groups of all ages, R-15, and R-18. As the target age goes up, the amount of fabric in the costumes has a tendency to go down, but if taken too far, sales will be prohibited.



Sign: Yuzawawa

are these costumes lacking in durability, they came with other problems, such as the inability to go through the wash. Generally it is considered uncool to have visible tape on a costume, but when a layer's main goal is a studio photo shoot, the tape can be erased using Photoshop (see Volume 4: Photoshop).

n. 49

► Page 123
Casplay Cabaret Club

An establishment whose employees wear maid uniforms or character cosplay outfits while offering the same services as at ordinary cabaret clubs. Many of

talents who started out as cosplay models and went on to become celebrities. On the other side of the spectrum, there has been a dramatic increase in cases where students or otherwise employed people will be appointed as cosplay staff for a company as a part-time job.

► Page 90
"I see your tape."

By using packing tape, double-stick tape, staplers, etc., it is possible to construct a costume without a sewing machine, and in a shorter period of time. However, not only

► Page 87
Layer Model

Commonly known as a cosplay model. A professional cosplayer that works for a talent agency, and is expected to get as close to kan-cas ("perfect cosplay," see Volume 1: I am perfect) as possible for any character. There are also cosplay

► Page 151
"The dress took a lot of fabric."

Because many wedding dresses have very long skirts with two or more layers, they require a substantial amount of fabric. Incidentally, the gown that appears in this manga has what is called an Empire waist. Because the skirt falls from just under the bust, it easily hides the contours of the wearer's lower body to produce a natural look.

grilled beef
tongue was first served in Japan in Sendai
in 1948, when Keishirō Sano, the founder of
the Tasuke, was inspired by the beef tongue
in Western cuisine and served it in his own
restaurant.

► Page 144
"Naqi-shi!!"

The honorific *-shi* is mainly used for men, and is attached to a name as a term of respect. It is basically used only in writing, but there are people who use it in speech. It often appears in anime and manga as a very "atku" way of addressing people.

them will sing karaoke anime or idol songs, and at some clubs, the employees and customers will dance along with the song.

n.50

► Page 143
**Sendai
beef
tongue**

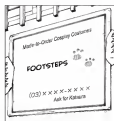
Grilled *gyūtan*, or beef tongue, a Sendai delicacy. It is believed that



Sign: Cosplay Cabaret Club ♡ NyaCos

► Page 169
Official License

Obtaining official legal permission to use characters from an anime or manga. In many cases, the licensing fee (royalties) is 3-5% of the sales price.



► Page 167
Fashion School

A school that specializes in fashion. Not only do students learn basic design concepts such as the production process, materials, color coordination, and sewing, but depending on the course, they can learn a wide range of other subjects, including makeup techniques, how to design accessories such as bags and hats, and how to be a buyer.

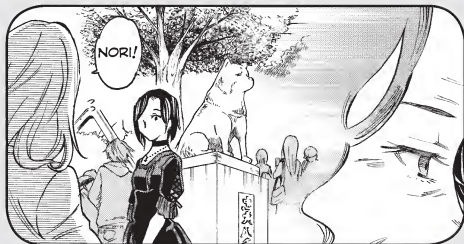
n.51

► Page 164
Made-to-Order Cosplay Cos-
tumes

Cosplay costumes that are made to order using anime, manga, etc. as reference. They are more expensive than store-bought costumes, but feature the abilities to choose size and fabric, and to obtain costumes for minor or original characters. In many cases, in addition to communicating with the seamstress via email and telephone, the customer can meet her in person to discuss the order.

Translation Notes





LOYAL HACHIKO

This famous statue in Shibuya is dedicated to the loyal dog Hachiko, who came to the train station to wait for his master's arrival every day. When his master passed away while at work, and failed to arrive at the station, Hachiko waited, and returned to the station every day at the same time for nine years until his own death. In honor of his faithfulness, he has been immortalized as a bronze statue, which has become a popular spot to meet up with friends for a day in Shibuya.



HARAJUKU AND OMOTESANDO

Both of the places Nagisa mentions are districts in Tokyo that are known for attracting the fashion-conscious. They are home to several big brand-name stores, as opposed to Shimokitazawa, which features mostly small, independent shops.



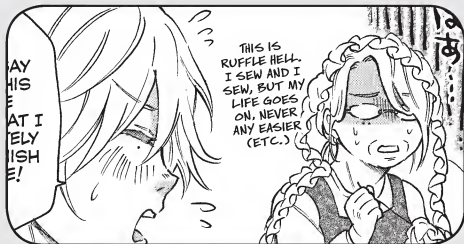
SAVING SPACE

Early spring is cherry blossom season in Japan, and everyone goes outside for a picnic to enjoy their beauty. So many people, in fact, that the parks are packed, and finding a place to lay out one's picnic can be quite a challenge. Aya and Shiho apologize for their lack of experience, which allowed them to find only a very small space.



TAKE SOME TURMERIC

Turmeric is believed to be effective in preventing hangovers because it improves liver function. In fact, there is even a drink called *Ukon no Chikara* (the power of turmeric) which is specially designed for this purpose. However, Nagisa's coworker doesn't appear to be holding a drink, so she may be referring to simple turmeric.



LIFE GOES ON

This is a reference to a poem by Takuboku Ishikawa, which translates roughly to:

I work and I work,
And then I work even more, but my life goes on, never any easier.
I merely stare at my hands.

The poem is the lament of a man who, although he works all the time, never manages to earn enough money to improve his situation.

Complex Age.6



Japan's most
powerful spirit
medium delves
into the ghost
world's greatest
mysteries!

Story by Kyo
Shirodaira, famed
author of mystery
fiction and creator of
Spiral, *Blast of Tempest*,
and *The Record of a
Fallen Vampire*.



Both touched by spirits called yōkai, Kotoko and Kurō have gained unique superhuman powers. But to gain her powers Kotoko has given up an eye and a leg, and Kurō's personal life is in shambles. So when Kotoko suggests they team up to deal with renegades from the spirit world, Kurō doesn't have many other choices, but Kotoko might just have a few ulterior motives...

IN/SPECTRE

STORY BY KYO SHIRODAIRA
ART BY CHASHIBA KATASE

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"I'm pleasantly surprised to find modern shojo using cross-dressing as a dramatic device to deliver social commentary... Recommended."

-Otaku USA
Magazine



the. prince in his dark days

By Hico Yamanaka

A drunkard for a father, a household of poverty... For 17-year-old Atsuko, misfortune is all she knows and believes in. Until one day, a chance encounter with Itaru-the wealthy heir of a huge corporation-changes everything. The two look identical, uncannily so. When Itaru curiously goes missing, Atsuko is roped into being his stand-in. There, in his shoes, Atsuko must parade like a prince in a palace. She encounters many new experiences, but at what cost...?

"Parasyte fans should get a kick out of the chance to revisit Iwaaki's weird, violent, strangely affecting universe. Recommended." -Otaku USA Magazine

"A great anthology containing an excellent variety of genres and styles." -Manga Bookshelf

Based on the critically acclaimed classic horror manga

The first new *Parasyte* manga in
over 20 years!

NEO PARASYTE

BY ASUMIKO NAKAMURA, EMA TOYAMA, MIKI RINNO, LALAKO KOJIMA, KAORI YUKI,
BANKO KUZE, YUUKI OBATA, KASHIO, YUI KUROE, ASIA WATANABE, MIKIMAKI,
HIKARU SURUGA, HAJIME SHINJO, RENJURO KINDAICHI, AND YURI NARUSHIMA

A collection of chilling new *Parasyte* stories from Japan's top shojo artists!

Parasites: shape-shifting aliens whose only purpose is to assimilate with and consume the human race... but do these monsters have a different side? A parasite becomes a prince to save his romance-obsessed female host from a dangerous stalker. Another hosts a cooking show, in which the real monsters are revealed. These and 13 more stories, from some of the greatest shojo manga artists alive today, together make up a chilling, funny, and entertaining tribute to one of manga's horror classics!

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KC
KODANSHA
COMICS



The Black Museum ^{The} Ghost and the Lady

By Kazuhiro Fujita

Deep in Scotland Yard in London sits an evidence room dedicated to the greatest mysteries of British history. In this “Black Museum” sits a misshapen hunk of lead—two bullets fused together—the key to a wartime encounter between Florence Nightingale, the mother of modern nursing, and a supernatural Man in Grey. This story is unknown to most scholars of history, but a special guest of the museum will tell the tale of The Ghost and the Lady...

Praise for Kazuhiro Fujita’s *Ushio and Tora*

“A charming revival that combines a classic look with modern depth and pacing... **Essential viewing both for curmudgeons and new fans alike.**” — Anime News Network

“**GREAT!** The first episode of *Ushio and Tora* captures the essence of ‘90s anime.” — IGN

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A new
series
from the
creator
of *Soul
Eater*, the
megahit
manga and
anime seen
on Toonami!

"Fun and lively...
a great start!"
-Adventures in
Poor Taste

FIRE FORCE

By Atsushi Ohkubo

The city of Tokyo is plagued by a deadly phenomenon: spontaneous human combustion! Luckily, a special team is there to quench the inferno: The Fire Force! The fire soldiers at Special Fire Cathedral 8 are about to get a unique addition. Enter Shinra, a boy who possesses the power to run at the speed of a rocket, leaving behind the famous "devil's footprints" (and destroying his shoes in the process). Can Shinra and his colleagues discover the source of this strange epidemic before the city burns to ashes?

The award-winning manga about what happens inside you!

"Far more entertaining than it ought to be... what kid doesn't want to think that every time they sneeze a torpedo shoots out their nose?"

—Anime News Network



Strep throat! Hay fever! Influenza! The world is a dangerous place for a red blood cell just trying to get her deliveries finished. Fortunately, she's not alone...she's got a whole human body's worth of cells ready to help out! The mysterious white blood cells, the buff and brash killer T cells, even the cute little platelets—everyone's got to come together if they want to keep you healthy!

Cells at Work!

はたらく細胞

H A P P I N E S S

——ハピネス——

By Shuzo Oshimi

From the creator of *The Flowers of Evil*

Nothing interesting is happening in Makoto Ozaki's first year of high school. His life is a series of quiet humiliations: low-grade bullies, unreliable friends, and the constant frustration of his adolescent lust. But one night, a pale, thin girl knocks him to the ground in an alley and offers him a choice. Now everything is different. Daylight is searingly bright. Food tastes awful. And worse than anything is the terrible, consuming thirst...

Praise for Shuzo Oshimi's *The Flowers of Evil*

"A shockingly readable story that vividly—one might even say queasily—evokes the fear and confusion of discovering one's own sexuality. Recommended." —The Manga Critic

"A page-turning tale of sordid middle school blackmail." —Otaku USA Magazine

"A stunning new horror manga." —Third Eye Comics



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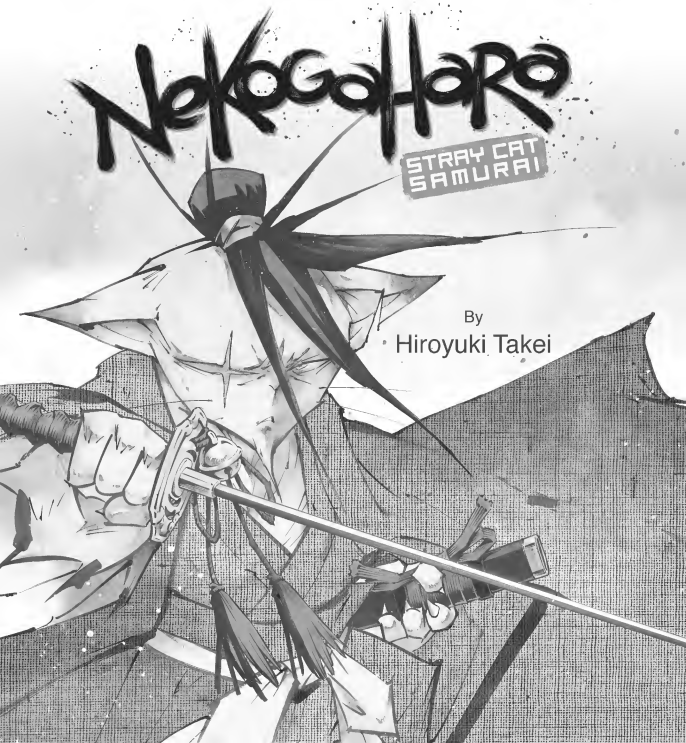
*New action series from Hiroyuki Takei, creator of
the classic shonen franchise Shaman King!*

In medieval Japan, a bell hanging on the collar is a sign that a cat has a master. Norachiyo's bell hangs from his katana sheath, but he is nonetheless a stray — a ronin. This one-eyed cat samurai travels across a dishonest world, cutting through pretense and deception with his blade.

NekoGallaro

STRAY CAT
SAMURAI

By
Hiroyuki Takei



Having lost his wife, high school teacher Kōhei Inuzuka is doing his best to raise his young daughter Tsumugi as a single father. He's pretty bad at cooking and doesn't have a huge appetite to begin with, but chance brings his little family together with one of his students, the lonely Kotori. The three of them are anything but comfortable in the kitchen, but the healing power of home cooking might just work on their grieving hearts.

"This season's number-one feel-good anime!" —Anime News Network

"A beautifully-drawn story about comfort food and family and grief. Recommended." —Otaku USA Magazine



sweetness & lightning

By Gido Amagakure

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COMICS

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"An emotional and artistic tour de force! We see incredible triumph, and crushing defeat... each panel [is] a thrill!"

—Anitay

"A journey that's instantly compelling."

—Anime News Network

WELCOME TO THE BALLROOM

By Tomo Takeuchi

Feckless high school student Tataru Fujita wants to be good at something—anything. Unfortunately, he's about as average as a slouchy teen can be. The local bullies know this, and make it a habit to hit him up for cash, but all that changes when the debonair Kaname Sengoku sends them packing. Sengoku's not the neighborhood watch, though. He's a professional ballroom dancer. And once Tataru Fujita gets pulled into the world of ballroom, his life will never be the same.



Complex Age 6

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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